

# PINK

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55p

## Boatmen have the edge in derby tie

Sholing v Totton match report – page 35



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## SPORTS CALENDAR

Your guide to what's on in the world of sport in 2015 is inside today – see pages 20-21

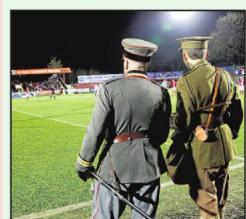


### SAINTS



Reed all about it  
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### TERRY PAINES



Truce was sport's finest hour...  
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### REVIEW



Our look back at sport in 2014  
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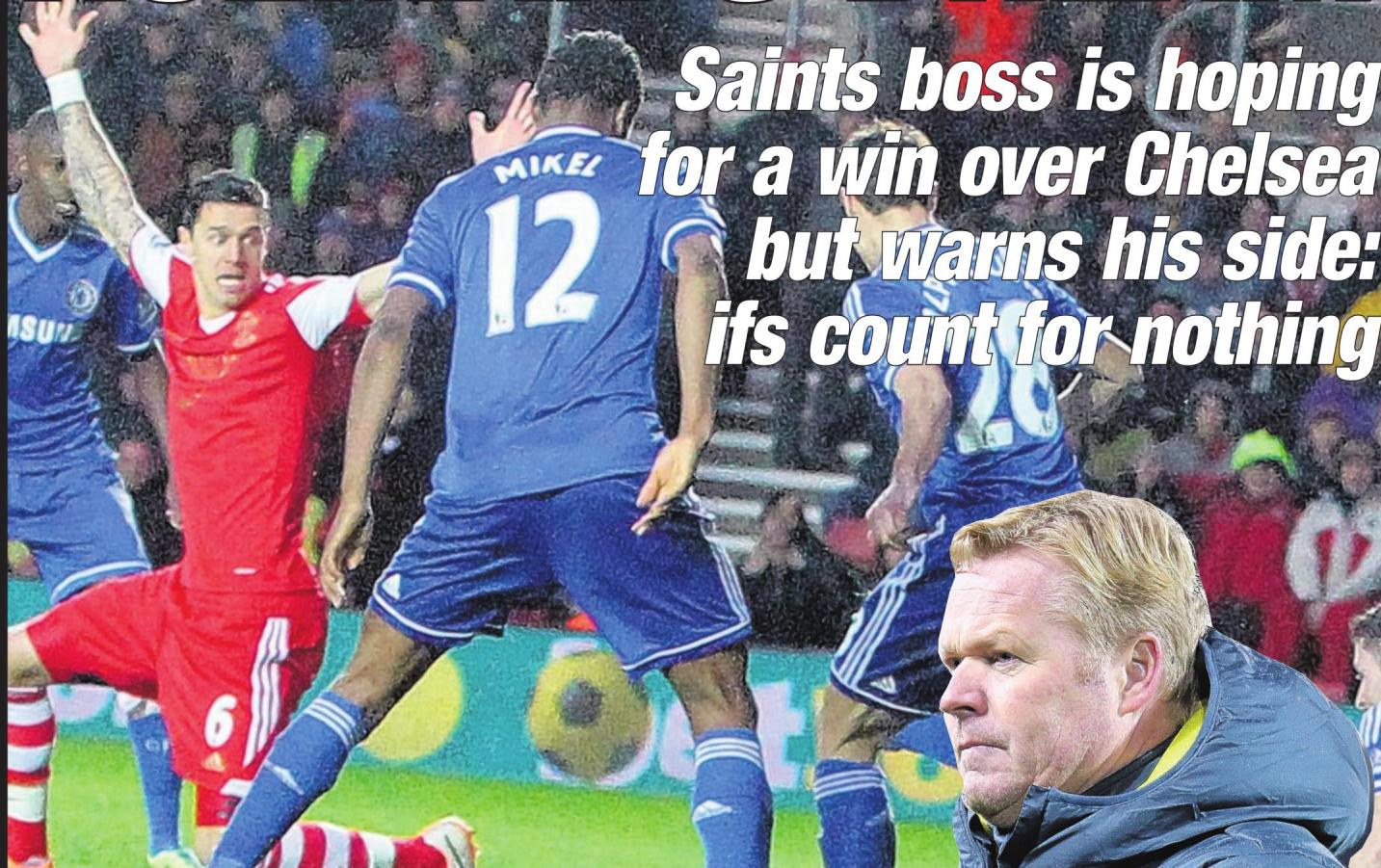
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# KOEMAN'S DREAM

Saints boss is hoping for a win over Chelsea but warns his side: ifs count for nothing



RONALD Koeman says Saints are already dreaming ahead of facing Premier League leaders Chelsea, but has reminded the club that 'ifs' count for nothing.

Saints have lifted themselves back up to fourth place in the table ahead of the visit of Jose Mourinho's league leaders to St Mary's on Sunday.

**Adam Leitch**  
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CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER

It is a remarkable position for Saints to find themselves in as they approach the halfway point of the season.

Koeman was asked whether victory over Chelsea would allow Saints to dream as to just where they might finish this campaign.

The Saints manager said he already was to a certain extent, but that you get nothing for wondering.

"It will be 'if' but 'if' doesn't count in football. It doesn't count in life," he insisted.

Continued on page 2



DREAMING: Saints against Chelsea last New Year's Day and, inset, Ronald Koeman

WIN £18,000 IN FIND THE BALL - SEE PAGE 7



# Saints Spotlight

## Koeman has a dream...

From front page

"We are a little bit dreaming because we are in a good position in the league now. "We had a difficult time after some defeats and we are winning back now two games in a row and that's important, game by game and to do our best and to do what we like to do which is playing football, and to play attractive, offensive football and go for it.

"That means in every game, that's not because our opponent is called Chelsea or Man City."

Koeman has gone with three at the back for the last two games and it has worked a treat as Saints have recorded victories over Everton and Crystal Palace.

Some teams have tried to change their system or style of play in a bid to contain Mourinho's men, but that is not something Koeman will be trying.

"We go for it, that's football," he said defiantly. "If you



**Jose Fonte is back after a one-match ban**

**don't go for it stay home.**

"I believe in our way of playing and not to change system or players, no."

"We try to do it on our way." Koeman will be boosted by the return of captain Jose Fonte, who sat out the win over his former club Palace serving a one game ban.

However, Ryan Bertrand, one of the goalscorers at Selhurst Park who is on loan from Chelsea, is ineligible to face his parent club.

Saints though are getting players back at the right time and Koeman is confident that he can change things around if he needs to.

"We know our programme, it's tough, and we need all the players," he said.

"You can't play with 11 players for two games in 48 hours and you have to make some changes and we have that kind of players that we can change the team and we keep the quality."

# TIME TO REED

## Harrison's impressive Saints debut was a special moment

**AS FAR AS full Premier League debuts go, there can't have been many more impressive than Harrison Reed's.**

The 19-year-old midfielder received his first top-flight start when he was named in the line-up for last Saturday's home game against Everton, turning in a dynamic and tenacious display in the 3-0 win.

For the Worthing-born youngster, who has been with Saints since the age of seven, it was a moment to treasure.

"It was a really special day for me, and also my family up in the stands," he said.

"It was a day I had been waiting for.

"Obviously, I made my first-team debut last year against Barnsley and then in the Premier League against Man City, so I've been waiting patiently for my first start, and it came on a really good day for me and the team."

### NERVES

Watching Reed's display, and subsequently listening to him speak so confidently and eloquently, it is hard to imagine he would have been overcome by nerves ahead of the game.

But the youngster admitted there were a few uneasy moments.

"I was really nervous, but really excited at the same time, to be walking out the St Mary's tunnel for the first time, in front of a full house," he said.

"I knew it was going to be a really special moment for me, and it was one I was looking forward to.

"I sort of thought I'd be starting on the Friday, because we ran the set-plays and team shape, so the nerves set in a little bit then.

"I went home and told my parents, and throughout that night there were thoughts coming into my head about the different situations I could be facing in the game, the opponents.

"I had a good night's sleep and then I woke up in the morning feeling a bit sick with nerves.

"I went to the ground, and to get around the boys really sort of settled me down a little bit.

"A few of them spoke to me about sort of what to expect and how they wanted me to play.

"I was fine up until we came in after the warm-up when the

**IMPRESSIVE: Harrison Reed in action on his Saints debut against Everton at St Mary's last Saturday**

**Gordon Simpson**  
gordon.simpson@dailyecho.co.uk  
**SPORTS REPORTER**

tions I could be facing in the game, the opponents.

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"I went to the ground, and to get around the boys really sort of settled me down a little bit.

"A few of them spoke to me about sort of what to expect and how they wanted me to play.

"I was fine up until we came in after the warm-up when the

nerves really, really set in then.

"Sort of walking to the tunnel, walking out the St Mary's tunnel was amazing. To get my first touch straight away settled me down really well."

Reed added: "All the coaches spoke to me and settled me down, gave me advice, so I knew exactly what I was expected to do.

"The senior boys, Jose [Fonte], the captain, put his arm round me before the game and said 'You don't have to prove anything. All the boys know what you're capable of doing. Just go out there and play your normal game,' so that was really reassuring."

Reed's mum and dad were both in the stands to watch him play, along with his brother and some of his friends.

"I had ten tickets for the game, so I had all my family there and a few friends, which was really important to me," he said.

"It was really pleasing to have them there to speak to them after and see the smiles on their faces. It really meant a lot to me."

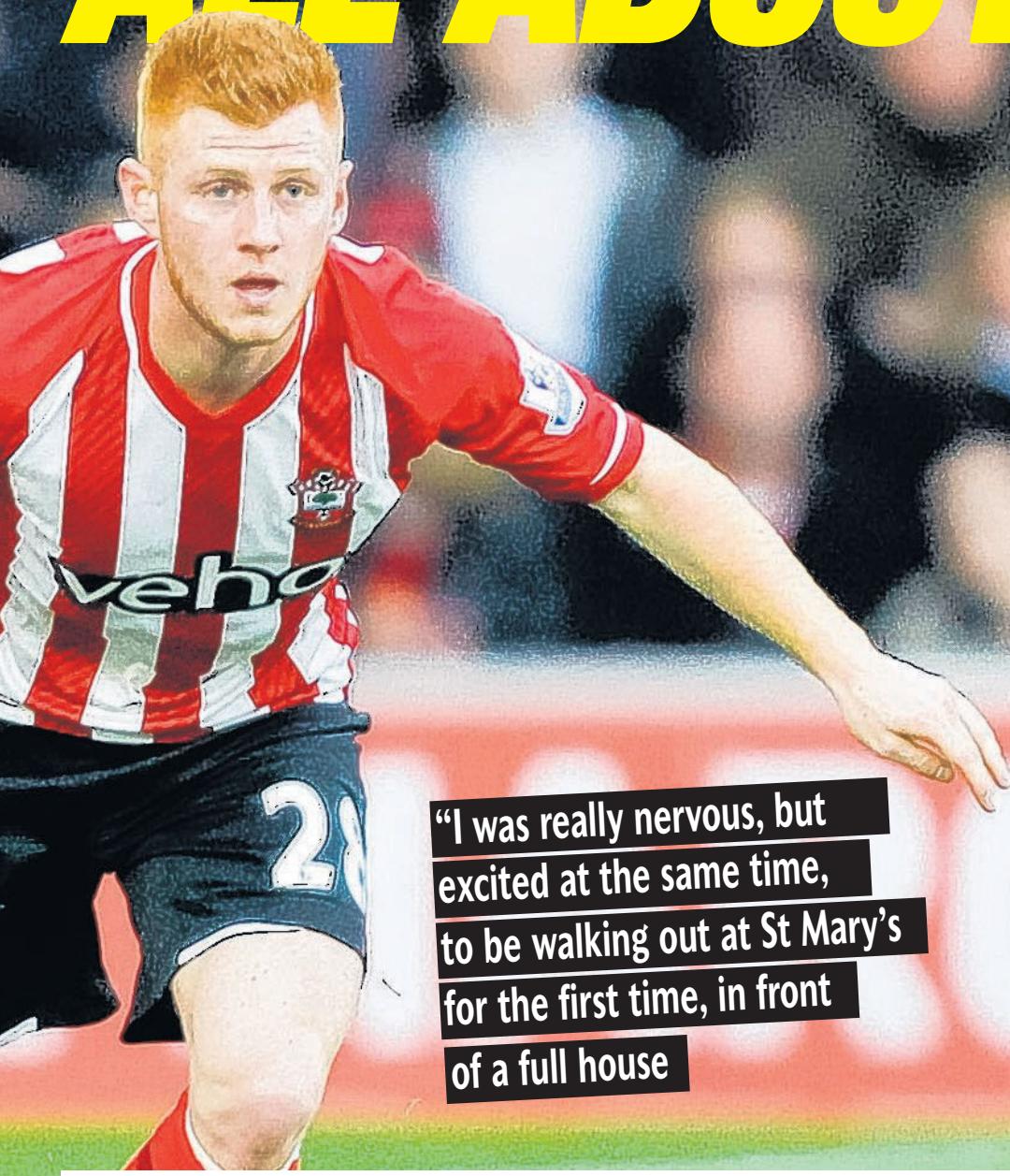
They were all no doubt rightly proud about the role Reed played in what was a fine all-round team performance, and the teenage ace was delighted to be able to reflect on a positive result and display,

**RELIVE ECHO SPORT BACK PAGES OF 2014 - SEE PAGES 8-19**

# Saints Spotlight



# ALL ABOUT IT



**"I was really nervous, but excited at the same time, to be walking out at St Mary's for the first time, in front of a full house"**

which snapped the side's five-game losing streak.

"We've started the season very well," he said. "We've had a little bit of a blip, but we know we're confident in the way we play, and we know we can push for a really good season this year – something special."

"Every player was fantastic on Saturday. The defence, the keeper, the midfield, the attackers – the way that everyone played and worked together was really important I think."

It is clear from what has been seen of Reed so far that he has received a fine grounding in the

academy.

Recalling how he came to be picked up by Saints as a seven-year-old, he said: "I was at Arsenal. I went on trial at Arsenal and, at that age, the distance is too much to travel, so they put me in contact with Southampton."

"I came down here for a trial and they offered me a place in the academy."

"Obviously, that was with Prowsey (James Ward-Prowse), Gapey (Dominic Gape, who came on on Saturday), Calum [Chambers], Sam McQueen – we all rose up from under-eights together really."

Reed, who shared a place with Chambers when the full-back was at the club, also believes that progressing alongside a number of his friends has made the transition from youth to first-team an easier one.

"Obviously, we've had a few boys come up and leave, but I could speak to Prowsey before the game and the few days leading up to it," said Reed, who signed a new four-year contract last summer.

"He was speaking to me about how he dealt with stuff, and the way that I've been in and around the squad, been on the bench, made a few appearances, has

helped me as well.

"To be in and around the first-team, training with them every day, I don't think I could have played with the confidence I did if I hadn't had that."

Reed added: "Last year we had Calum, Luke, Prowsey, Sam Gallagher as well, and all of them, so when I went up to train with the first-team I had a few familiar faces and that really helped me to just get my head down, concentrate and just play my normal way."

"Obviously, living with Calum when he made his Premier League debut, I could speak to him about that, and when he had his good games, when he had his bad games, I could sort of reflect with him."

"He listened to me and I listened to him, so we had a good relationship, and that really worked and helped me."

But what else is it about the academy that makes it so good at producing young players who are ready for first-team action.

"I think it's just the way that the coaches deal with us at a young age," said Reed.

## FAMILY CLUB

"Obviously, being in the same facility as the first-team, sometimes seeing the first-team players around when you're younger, it's really good."

"It's like a family club. You don't think that they're too far away from you."

"I think that's massive, like when you're in the under-18s, under-16s that you can actually see the pathway to the first-team and that gives you real belief."

"When you're walking around you can ask for advice, because all the first-team players are so friendly and are willing to give you advice."

"When you're young and you need the advice, coaches can put you in contact with the first-team players, who don't mind speaking to you, so that really helps."

Having had his first serious taste of Premier League action, Reed is hoping he can now help Saints in what is another challenging run of fixtures against some of the division's elite sides.

"We've got a few big games coming up against top-four teams, so we're looking to pick up as many points as possible in this period, because we know how big it is in terms of where you end up when it comes to May, at the end of the season, so we'll be looking to concentrate, play our football and focus on picking up some points over this Christmas period," he said.

## BOOK of the WEEK

**GUY MARTIN: MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY**  
By Guy Martin

**Sports book of the month**  
price: £9.00 saving 31% on rrp

**Guy Martin's autobiography has been one of the year's sporting phenomena, selling in incredible numbers, thanks in part to his television appearances, but also to his engaging, boy-next-door persona.**

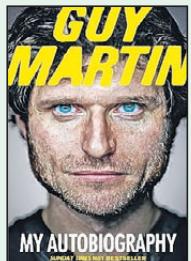
**In many respects, his apparent devil-may-care attitude is one most of us lose once burdened with the increasingly heavy responsibilities of family, work, mortgage and so on, which perhaps explains why we enjoy reading about a man who avoids conformity.**

**And this book, like much else that Martin presents to the public on TV and in his two other books, is non-conformist, opinionated, compelling and often very, very funny.**

**It's possible that readers will return to some passages and wonder whether this star of the Isle of Man TT races meant to re-emphasise a point he's already made. Is he being pedantic or simply trying to fill up the page?**

**An example: he details every bend, straight and corner (with speeds) from a road race in Ulster and goes on to explain that the location known as 'The Hole In The Wall' is so named because, well, "there's a wall with a hole in it."**

**Yet his straight-talking, come-day, go-day manner successfully disguises the amount of hard work Martin undertakes to ensure that whenever he straddles a high-performance motorbike, he's taken as much risk out of propelling it at 170mph as he possibly can. He may come across as a man still in possession of a youthful, devil-may-care attitude, but there's an awful lot of precision to Guy Martin as this excellent read makes abundantly clear.**

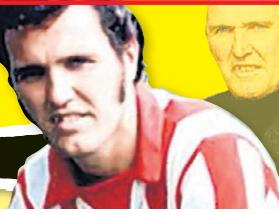


**● We've teamed up with Sports Book of the Month & have a copy of Guy Martin's autobiography to give away.**

**To win this fantastic prize, go to their website ([www.sports-bookofthemonth.com](http://www.sports-bookofthemonth.com)) and answer the following question: In what year did the Isle of Man TT begin?**

# Paine's World

The Saints legend's **EXCLUSIVE** column on all things football



# UNITED BY YOUR LOVE OF THE GAME



**WELL MATCHED:** A British Army officer, right, and a German Armed Forces officer, dressed in World War One uniforms, watch the soccer match between their teams in Aldershot earlier this month to mark the Christmas Day truce 100 years ago when rival WWI troops stopped fighting, left the trenches and are said to have played football instead.

## CHRISTMAS is a very special time of year.

It is a time where loved ones come together, share gifts, sing carols, and warm themselves next to open fires, before indulging in a feast and falling asleep in front of the latest Doctor Who or Downtown Abbey special.

To the football fan in particular, the Christmas period 'tis the season to be jolly, with each club playing a game once nearly every three days in what is a veritable feast of action.

December can be a trying month for even the most prepared managers.

The seemingly never-ending run of games can present all kinds of hurdles to overcome.

A succession of quick injuries that highlights a squad's lack of depth, an international superstar showing unwillingness to play in the cold and wet of an English winter, a passing game that can come undone by a frozen pitch – these are just a few scenarios that can lead to the regular managerial shake-up prior to the January transfer window.

The Premier League table often resembles a much different picture at the end of the Christmas period.

A run of games can see a side race away at the top, or get worryingly left behind at the bottom.

Whatever the case, it is always great entertainment.

But it is a good time to remember that football's relationship with Christmas means far more than just that.

It takes us back 100 years to World War One, and Christmas Eve of 1914, when the "Christmas Truce" – or "Weihnachtsfrieden" – took place.

As I'm sure you know, this was a series of widespread, unofficial ceasefires between British and German soldiers fighting along the Western Front.

"Stille Nacht. Heilige Nacht. Alles Schlaft, einsam wacht," was the message being sung from the German trench.

Despite the unfamiliar lyrics, the haunting "Silent Night" tune was unmistakable.

At the song's finale, a lone German soldier appeared, in his hand a small tree, glowing with light.

"Merry Christmas, we not shoot, you not shoot" was his cry.

After messages were exchanged across "no man's land", British and German soldiers met in the area between the two enemy trench systems and exchanged gifts and souvenirs, took photographs, and performed joint burial ceremonies for the fallen.

Then, in what is one of the truce's most enduring images, troops from both sides temporarily set aside their differences to play a game of football.

Some officers viewed the truce as an opportunity to improve living conditions and

morale in the trenches, although others felt it would undermine the fighting spirit.

The truce remained a unique event on the Western Front, as the high commands of both sides took measures to ensure such "fraternisation" would not occur again.

A hundred years later, Prince William acknowledged: "We all grew up with the story of soldiers from both sides putting down their arms on Christmas Day, and it remains wholly relevant today as a message of hope over adversity, even in the bleakest of times."

"It promises to be a powerful way to engage and educate young people about such an important moment in history."

The compelling story highlights how sport, and football in particular, is a global language that can bring people of different backgrounds and beliefs together.

It has continued to play an important role in Christmas festivities over the years.

It has been 55 years since the last football game was played on Christmas Day in England, but the following day, "Boxing Day", is one of just three days where every Premier League team plays – the other two being New Year's Day and the final day of the season.

It is a chance for the English top-flight to truly dominate global football coverage, as well as draw in bumper crowds that can result in millions in revenue for the clubs on a special day for fans across the world.

## Did You Know?

### On this day:

**1949:** A record 1,269,934 were in attendance for the Football League programme – an average of 28,862 spectators at each game. The previous record had stood for only 24 hours, 1,226,098 having turned up for the Boxing Day fixtures.

**1980:** Birmingham goalkeeper Tony Coton saved a penalty 90 seconds into his debut in a 3-2 win over Sunderland.

**1982:** National Hunt trainer Michael Dickinson saddled a record 12 winners in one day's racing around the country.

**2002:** Australia opener Justin Langer scored 250, hitting 30 fours and a six, as Australia amassed 551 for six declared in the first innings of the fourth Test against England in Melbourne.

**2003:** England centre Mike Tindall suffered a broken leg in Bath's win at Saracens.

**2008:** Sunderland handed Ricky Sbragia, their caretaker boss at the time, an 18-month contract as manager. He resigned at the end of the season.

**2012:** Henning Berg was sacked as manager of Blackburn after less than eight weeks in charge of the npower Championship club.

**2013:** Malky Mackay was dismissed as manager of Cardiff, a week after owner Vincent Tan sent him an email demanding he resign or be sacked.

### Today's birthdays:

**Joe Kinnear (soccer)** – former Newcastle, Wimbledon and Luton manager, born 1946.

**Steve Jones (golf)** – American 1996 US Open champion, born 1958.

**Duncan Ferguson (soccer)** – former Dundee United, Rangers, Everton, Newcastle and Scotland striker, born 1971.

**Colin Charvis (rugby union)** – former Wales captain, born 1972.

**David Dunn (soccer)** – Blackburn midfielder, born 1979.

**Gilles Simon (tennis)** – French winner of 11 ATP Tour singles titles, born 1984.

**Jerome d'Ambrosio (motor racing)** – former F1 driver for Virgin Racing and Lotus, born 1985.

**Milos Raonic (tennis)** – big-serving Canadian who has won six ATP Tour titles, born 1990.

**Danny Wilson (soccer)** – Hearts' former Liverpool defender, born 1991.

# Premiership Spotlight

## Bertrand must sit out Chelsea clash

On-loan Saints full-back Ryan Bertrand is ineligible to face parent club Chelsea, but manager Ronald Koeman can call upon captain Jose Fonte.

Matthew Targett is likely to come in for Bertrand at left-back on Sunday, when Saints skipper Fonte is likely to return whether the manager keeps with the 3-5-2 formation or not.

Shane Long, Dusan Tadic and Victor Wanyama could come in after starting from the bench in the Boxing Day win at Crystal Palace, but Jay Rodriguez (cruciate ligament), Sam Gallagher (knee) and Jack Cork (knock) remain out.

Provisional squad: Forster, K Davis, Gazzaniga, Clyne, Targett, Alderweireld, Gardos, Fonte, Yoshida, McCarthy, S Davis, Gape, Hesketh, Schneiderlin, Ward-Prowse, Tadic, Wanyama, Reed, Mane, Isgrove, McQueen, Mayuka, Long, Pelle, Seager.



INELIGIBLE: On-loan Saint Ryan Bertrand

## Chelsea focused on facing Saints

CHELSEA'S Nemanja Matic says his club's focus is on the here and now ahead of tomorrow's trip to Southampton, where Chelsea will bid to finish 2014 on a high and begin 2015 on top of the Barclays Premier League.

"We are focused always on the next game," Matic said. "We look at this like a new challenge, like a new opportunity to show our quality and we will continue like this."

"We had some stretches in the dressing room (after the West Ham win) and we are already focused on Southampton."

"We will try to prepare ourselves for that game and I hope we will continue to win."

Jose Mourinho has no injury concerns or suspensions, but must determine how best to utilise his squad with matches against Tottenham and Watford, in the FA Cup, in the following seven days.

"They are good. They are strong. They are human," Mourinho told Chelsea TV.

"We have to try to find this balance between the good condition they have and the human side of it. Everyone will be a bit tired, but at the same time smiling."



PILING ON THE PRESSURE: Southampton's Toby Alderweireld heads in his side's third goal in yesterday's win over Crystal Palace

## Warnock pays the price for Southampton defeat

**NEIL Warnock has become the Premier League's first managerial casualty of the season, with Crystal Palace sacking him this morning, just hours after his team lost 3-1 at home to Saints.**

The 66-year-old only started a second spell at Selhurst Park on August 27, but has failed to carry on the stellar work done by predecessor Tony Pulis.

Pulis walked out ahead of the season after pulling off a great escape during the last campaign, but Warnock (pictured) – despite a memorable win over Liverpool – has not got things going, and leaves Palace with the club in the relegation zone on 15 points.

"Crystal Palace Football Club can today confirm that Neil Warnock has been relieved of his duties and is no longer first-team manager," said a statement on the club's official website.

"The club would like to put on record its thanks to Neil for all his

hard work and energy over the past four months.

"Keith Millen will lead the team against Queens Park Rangers tomorrow as caretaker manager."

Warnock appeared to be showing the strain after Friday's 3-1 loss to Southampton, bemoaning his side's lack of luck after listening to the club's fans singing "you don't know what you're doing".

"I thought they had a lot of luck last year – I don't see us having much luck this year," he said.

Palace co-chairman Steve Parish told the South London Press: "It just didn't gel. It didn't work. Keith is probably in charge for the next two games."

"We need a win. QPR is no bigger than any other but we need three points."

"Neil is a lovely bloke. He did everything he could."

"It's an unfortunate decision. I thought about it overnight and decided we needed a change. Hopefully we'll get a reaction from everybody."



### Who's in line for Palace job?

#### Tim Sherwood

The former Tottenham boss was swiftly installed as the bookmakers' favourite to replace Warnock. Sherwood was interviewed for the job in August after Tony Pulis' shock exit, but ruled himself out after the process dragged on.

#### Tony Popovic

The former Australia international has strong ties with the Eagles, having played for the club for five seasons before returning in 2011 as part of Dougie Freedman's backroom set-up. Popovic has a burgeoning reputation, boosted last month by leading Western Sydney Wanderers to the Asian Champions League.

#### Glenn Hoddle

The former England boss reportedly turned down the chance to speak to Crystal Palace in August, having only recently become a coach at QPR. Hoddle was believed to be on a three-man shortlist to replace Pulis, along with Sherwood and Malky Mackay.

#### Chris Hughton

Out of work since being sacked by Norwich in April, the former Newcastle and Birmingham is amongst the bookmakers' favourites to replace Warnock. Hughton guided the Canaries to 11th in the Premier League in the 2012/13 season.

#### Tony Pulis

Just 134 days after leaving the club by mutual consent, could Pulis be returning to Selhurst Park? The bookies certainly seem to think there is a chance and it would certainly appear a wise appointment. Pulis won the Premier League's manager of the year award last season after impressively steering the club to safety.



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# FIND THE BALL

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**F**IND THE BALL is a test of skill and football knowledge and is open to readers of the Southampton, Bournemouth, Dorset Echoes, Brighton Argus and Sunday Independent, Plymouth.

You have to use your skill and judgement to determine the exact centre of the ball.

Mark an X with a ballpoint pen on the picture where you consider that position to be – clear rubber stamps and self adhesive labels will also be accepted.

Every coupon will be carefully examined and the jackpot prize will be paid to the entrant whose cross marks the exact centre of the ball when the photograph was taken.

If the Jackpot is not won, £1,000 will be added to next week's jackpot.

The nearest-miss prize of £1,000 will be paid out each week to the

competitor whose cross is nearest to the centre of the ball when there is no jackpot winner.

When a jackpot has been won the next week's prize reverts back to £5,000 and the nearest-miss prize stays at £1,000.

If the Jackpot is not won after 46 weeks, when standing at £50,000, the nearest miss prize of £1,000 will be paid out and the jackpot will remain at £50,000 each week until there is a jackpot winner, then the jackpot starts again at £5,000, with the nearest miss prize remaining at £1,000 each week.

If there is more than one winner the jackpot will be shared and, similarly, if there is more than one runner-up the nearest miss prize will also be shared.



### CLOSING DATE FOR POSTAL ENTRIES

Thursday 9am, 8 January 2015

Names of winners will be published on Saturday, 10 January or Sunday 11 January 2015

This a repeat competition from 20 December 2014 and will appear 27 December 2014 and 3 January 2015 due to the holiday postal service

### Rules

1. You are allowed a minimum of 60 crosses and a maximum of 450 per coupon. Coupons with 451 or more will be disqualified. Entries altered defaced or mutilated will be invalid. Crosses must be distinct and separate. 2. Competitors may submit as many coupons as they wish. Members of a family can send their entries in one envelope with a covering postal order or cheque. 3. No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, lost or mislaid. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. 4. Payment may be made by postal order or cheque for the correct amount payable to Newsquest, and crossed ' & Co.'. Stamps **will not** be accepted in payment. 5. A competitor cannot win more than one share of the prize money across all titles each week. 6. The Editor's decision on winning entry or entries and matters relating to this competition is binding in honour only. NO CORRESPONDENCE CAN BE ENTERED INTO. 7. Employees of NEWSQUEST Media Group and subsidiary companies and members of their families are not eligible to enter the competition. 8. Address entries to FTB, Newspaper House, Test Lane, Southampton, SO16 9JX in a sealed envelope. Understamped entries are not accepted. 9. Prize monies are held for and on behalf of winners. 10. Do not send cash in the post. 11. Winners will be required to participate in publicity. 12. Photocopies not accepted. 13. For rules go to [www.dailymail.co.uk/promotions/rules](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/promotions/rules). 14. For terms or write in for a copy. 14. If you pay by cheque your prize money will be paid to you once cheque has cleared.



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**DAILY ECHO**

# WHAT MADE THE BACK PAGE IN 2014? LOOKING BACK ON A

**Your Sport** Echo man's carp joy - Page 36

**JANUARY 1:** Mauricio Pochettino warns Premier League rivals Saints' young stars, including Luke Shaw, are not for sale. Shaw would eventually be sold to Man United.

**Your Sport** Well done, Saints, for taking Cup seriously - Page 40

**JANUARY 6:** Saints move to take their case to the FA after referee Mark Clattenburg allegedly abused Adam Lallana in Saints' clash with Everton.

**Your Sport** West Ham owners fuel rumours over Lambert - Page 49

**JANUARY 7:** The Clattenburg row takes a new twist after the Premier League rule the under-referee did nothing wrong in his altercation with Adam Lallana.

**Your Sport** The last taboo? See Saturday Review inside

**JANUARY 11:** Saints stalwart Kelvin Davis declares his aim is to make it to 300 appearances for the club.

**Your Sport** Saints star could face legal action over tweets - PS2

**JANUARY 13:** Shirley snowboard sensation Billy Morgan declares himself fit for the Sochi Winter Olympics after overcoming a horror knee injury.

**Your Sport** SAINTS: Day of drama as Cortese quits - Pages 60-61

**JANUARY 16:** Shock at Saints as chairman Nicola Cortese sensationally quits the club, leaving the future of the manager and star players also under question.

**Your Sport** Let's give Katharina a chance - PS6-57

**JANUARY 17:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino assures fans that he would not be leaving the club. He would eventually stand down in the summer.

**Your Sport** Saints can't kick their heels - Lawrie PS4

**JANUARY 18:** Saints fans are divided on the issue of Cortese's reign at the club, with club legend Matt Le Tissier hitting out at the former chairman.

**Your Sport** China's richest man denies Saints takeover bid - P49

**JANUARY 21:** In the wake of chairman Nicola Cortese's exit, Saints owner Katharina Liebherr announces a new board structure at the club.

**Your Sport** Lovren out for 3-4 weeks - See page 48

**JANUARY 22:** Ralph Krueger, who would eventually go on to become Saints chairman, is identified as one of the key candidates to replace former chairman Nicola Cortese.

**Your Sport** Saints don't aim to replace injured duo - PS7

**JANUARY 24:** Saints striker Dani Osvaldo is involved in a training ground attack on teammate Jose Fonte, with Osvaldo reported to have headbutted the defender.

**Your Sport** Lawrie: Words of Katharina a tonic - Page 78

**JANUARY 25:** Jose Fonte shows off the black eye he received from teammate Dani Osvaldo, with reports that the Italian may face a criminal charge.

# BUMPER YEAR OF SPORTS NEWS: JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

**SILVER LINING FOR SAINTS?**

DANI Osvaldo's controversial move to Liverpool has given the club a profit of more than £3m in January transfer fees.

The 23-year-old, mentioned in the news as being targeted by Manchester United, has signed a four-year deal with Liverpool worth a reported £15m. The move comes after the Reds had initially offered £12m for the striker.

"We would expect to have big transfers in January," said Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers. "It's been a great month for us."

Continued on page 55

**PLAY IT AGAIN SAM!**

Legend Dodd's praise for the 100k teen striker asked to replace £15m badboy

SAM GALLAGHER has proved an instant hit at the club. Red Army

No news good? 1 CRICKET  
Punchout at Paley - page 38  
DARTS  
England loss aff. Dart - page 38

**EUROPA LEAGUE WOULD 'KILL' US - POCH**

Mauricio Pochettino has warned that qualifying for the Europa League would be 'further down the road' for Southampton.

Champions League, there could be further places to qualify for. Southampton have a lot of things to do to get there.

Continued on page 48

**HIGH AT THE TIGERS!**

Goal hero Fonte gives praise to 'faultless' Yoshida in Hull win

GREAT EXPECTATIONS: Jose Fonte from defensive partner Maya Yoshida in their 1-0 win at Hull.

Continued on page 48

**FEBRUARY 1:** After attacking teammate Jose Fonte in training, the Saints striker ends his turbulent stay in England by sealing a loan

**FEBRUARY 5:** Saints waste no time in finding a replacement for Dani Osvaldo, with homegrown youngster Sam Gallagher tipped to fill the Italian's boots.

**FEBRUARY 7:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino declares Saints do not want to qualify for the Europa League. Fortunately for him, they didn't.

**FEBRUARY 12:** Saints defender Jose Fonte praises his central defensive partner Maya Yoshida after the pair were instrumental in sealing a 1-0 win at Hull.

**DISRESPECTFUL?**

Saints fans furious with Poch after dismal FA Cup display

MAURICIO Pochettino's claims of respect from the club after the FA Cup exit have been roundly condemned by the fans.

Adam Lallana, who has been targeted as a replacement for Dani Osvaldo, has also come under fire for his comments about the weekend's defeat to Sunderland.

Continued on page 42

**SO WE MEET AGAIN**

Lallana and controversial referee Mark Clattenburg to come face to face again

MARK Clattenburg will take charge of West Ham this Saturday - known as the 'referee who can't be beaten' he will be the one to be beaten by the club he once played for.

Continued on page 42

**KINGS OF THE ROAD**

Poch's men close in on away win record

Saints completed both the away wins in the last two games to go top of the PDCB, following the victory over Crystal Palace on Saturday.

Continued on page 42

**LALLANA: WE'RE AFTER UNITED**

Saints eyeing record Premier League finish

SAINTS captain Adam Lallana says his side's sights are set on overtaking Manchester United, as he believes this season is the club's best chance to do so.

Continued on page 42

**FEBRUARY 17:** Saints fans hit out after Saints' exit from the FA Cup – after an abject 1-0 defeat at Sunderland – accusing the club of lacking respect for the competition.

**FEBRUARY 18:** Saints star Adam Lallana comes face to face with referee Mark Clattenburg for the first time since their spat in the clash with Everton earlier in the season.

**FEBRUARY 19:** Saints close in on an away win record, with just one more victory on the road to make it six away wins in total for the season.

**FEBRUARY 20:** Saints star Adam Lallana states that his side are setting their sights on overhauling Manchester United and reaching the European spots.

**EUR THE WAN THAT I WANT!**

Star hopes Saints can take him back to the top level

VICTOR Wanyama has told South Africa's big European sights he wants them back. He wants to return to the club he left in 2012, when he moved to Celtic.

Continued on page 42

**SIX SHOOTER**

Lovren: Saints are still gunning for top six finish

DEJAN Lovren is back from injury and looking to keep his form up and targeting a top six finish in the Premier League.

Continued on page 42

**ROY'S FOUR LIONS**

Shaw promotion set to complete amazing week for Saints

JAY RODRIGUEZ is preparing to make a potentially breakthrough England squad.

Continued on page 42

**SAINTS' PRIDE OF 9 LIONS**

Saints in the spotlight once again, as seven homegrown stars are included in the various England squads along with Rickie Lambert and Jay Rodriguez.

**FEBRUARY 22:** Saints midfielder Victor Wanyama – who played in the Champions League with Celtic – states he wants Saints to qualify for Europe.

**FEBRUARY 23:** Saints defender Dejan Lovren says only a top six finish will do for Saints. They eventually finished eighth and Lovren left for Liverpool.

**FEBRUARY 26:** Saints are celebrating after four players – Jay Rodriguez, Adam Lallana, Rickie Lambert and Luke Shaw – are called up to the full England squad.

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## **WHAT MADE THE BACK PAGE IN 2014? LOOKING BACK ON A**

**MARCH 4:** Saints ace Rickie Lambert aims to show England boss Roy Hodgson he deserves a place in his World Cup squad for Brazil.

**MARCH 5:** England boss Roy Hodgson has said Saints starlet Luke Shaw is in a direct shoot-out for the second England left-back spot with Ashley Cole.

**MARCH 12:** Sholing's FA Vase semi-final clash with Eastbourne United is switched to a different date after Eastbourne declared they did not want to play on Mother's Day.

**MARCH 13:** New Saints chairman Ralph Krueger states that the club is not up for sale, as has been rumoured after the departure of former chairman Nicola Cortese.

**MAURICIO Pochettino** has insisted he is happy at Southampton long-term – although he would not commit to a new deal – as negotiations over a new contract continue.

Pochettino's current deal ends in the summer, but he has been linked with a move to Manchester United, Liverpool, Chelsea and Real Madrid.

However, there have been suggestions that Pochettino could leave if he does not begin negotiating with his over-entitled board members.

Southampton have already received offers from clubs like Liverpool, and Pochettino has said he will remain at the club next season, and the club will offer him a new deal.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 55

**MARCH 15:** Saints manager Mauricio Pochettino says that signing a new contract is not his priority. He was to leave in the summer.

**MARCH 17:** Saints' French midfielder Morgan Schneiderlin states that he would be open to the idea of playing for England if he was overlooked by Les Blues

**MARCH 24:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino says the club's European dream is over after defensive blunders lead to a 3-2 loss to Tottenham at White Hart Lane.

**MARCH 26:** The future of Saints trio Artur Boruc, Jack Cork and Jose Fonte is thrown into confusion as it is revealed all three are yet to be offered new contracts.

**MARCH 28:** With Pompey hovering in the League 2 relegation zone and Eastleigh gunning for promotion to the Conference Premier, the prospect of a derby is discussed

**MARCH 29:** Saints legend Matt Le Tissier picks his squad for Brazil... and it includes Saints stars Adam Lallana, Rickie Lambert, Luke Shaw and Jay Rodriguez.

**MARCH 30:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino once again states he will wait until the end of the season before entering into talks over a new contract.

**MARCH 31:** Adam Lallana did his hopes of getting a spot in the England squad no harm with a wonder goal in Saints' 4-0 win over Newcastle.

## **BUMPER YEAR OF SPORTS NEWS: MARCH AND APRIL**

**APRIL 2:** Just five years after entering administration, Saints are on the brink of collecting an £80m windfall on their second season back in the top flight.

**APRIL 5:** Saints fans beg the club's board to give a new deal to boss Mauricio Pochettino.

**APRIL 7:** While non-league Sholing celebrate booking their place in the FA Vase final, Jay Rodriguez suffers an injury at Man City that will rule him out of the World Cup.

A composite image for a magazine cover. The central figure is a man in a black tracksuit, identified as Mauricio Pochettino. To his right is a large, bold yellow text reading 'I LOVE IT HERE...'. Below him is a box containing a quote from Pochettino. In the top left corner, there's a small image of a player in a blue and white striped shirt. The top right corner shows a player in a red and white kit. Along the right edge, there are three more images: a player in a yellow and blue kit, a man in a suit labeled 'Adam Latch', and a smiling man in a suit labeled 'LAWRIE'. At the bottom, there's another image of a player in a blue and white striped shirt, and a logo for 'The Daily Echo'.

**APRIL 12:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino declares his love for the club and that he will stay. He would leave to join Spurs a short while later.

**APRIL 14:** Saints' mounting injury list sees their promising season threaten to come undone, with a 1-0 defeat against Cardiff the latest of a run of poor results.

A composite image for a sports magazine cover. On the left, a football player in a black tracksuit with white stripes on the sleeves is shouting with his mouth open. In the center, a large crowd of people, mostly men in suits, are cheering. On the right, a man in a light-colored suit and tie is holding up a large sheet of paper. The background features a red banner with the Northampton Town crest, which includes a green shield with a white cross and a blue border containing the text 'NORTHAMPTON TOWN' and 'ESTD 1892'. The overall theme is a sports-related protest or rally.

**APRIL 16:** Saints raise season ticket prices by four per cent, but fan opinion seems to be that the rise is worth paying.

**APRIL 18:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino states he expects in-demand starlet Luke Shaw to stay at the club. Both would leave in the summer.

The image consists of two parts. The left side shows the front page of the 'Your Sport' section from the Daily Echo. The main headline reads 'SO HARD DONE BY' with a large graphic of a footballer's arm raised. Below it, another headline says 'Poch rage as ref woe goes on'. The right side shows a portrait of Adam Latch, a man with short dark hair and a beard, wearing a dark jacket over a light shirt.

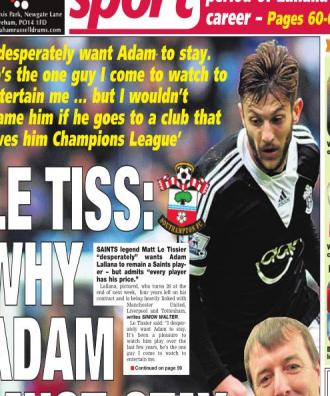
**APRIL 21:** Saints feel hard done by again, as the latest in a series of key decisions goes against them in the defeat at Aston Villa.

**APRIL 22:** Rickie Lambert's chances of making the World Cup squad are boosted when his direct rival, Andy Carroll, is said to be still recovering from injury.

A collage of various football-related news snippets from The Daily Echo, featuring Lawrie Mac's take on Moyes, Reed All About It, Adam Latch, and Pochettino's contract.

**APRIL 26:** Saints director Les Reed moves to quash rumours of unrest behind the scenes at St Mary's.

**APRIL 28:** Saints' star defender Jose Fonte urges the club to match the ambition of the playing staff.



**GRAHAM RUSSELL**  
**DRUMS**

**Your** **Daily Echo** **sport**

**The most critical period of Lallana's career - Pages 60-61**

**I** **desperately** **want** **Adam** **to** **stay.**  
**He's** **the** **one** **guy** **I** **come** **to** **watch** **to**  
**entertain** **me** ... **but** **I** **wouldn't**  
**blame** **him** **if** **he** **goes** **to** **a** **club** **that**  
**gives** **him** **Champions** **League'**

# LE TISS: WHY ADAM MUST STAY

**SAINTS** import Matt Le Tissier "desperately" wants Adam Lallana to stay at St Mary's, but seems to have his price.

Lallana, who turns 30 at the end of next year, has been left to his own devices by Southampton manager Alan Pardew and technical director Steve Lovell and Tomasz Hajto.

Le Tissier said: "It's going to be a pleasure to have him back again, but I think he needs to know what he's going to earn to switch to another club."

**Continued on page 10**

**11 Inside**  
**SAINTS**  
Vote for your  
team of the season  
**FA CUP**  
**Wembley** **match**  
competition -  
**NON-LEAGUE**  
**Boston** **clinic**  
Giggs' title  
bid

**APRIL 30:** Saints legend Matt Le Tissier begs the club not to let midfield star Adam Lallana leave. Lallana would later join Liverpool.

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# WHAT MADE THE BACK PAGE IN 2014? LOOKING BACK ON A

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **Spurs deny a move for any new boss - Page 48**

Juve losing interest in Osvaldo, but record signing could still hold the key to St Mary's summer transfer policy ...

**Inside RUGBY** Brown can prove it's world best - Page 48

**CRICKET** Dani Osvaldo could play for Saints

**ANGLING** Review of the last day

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**CONTINUED ON PAGE 48**

**DANI SET FOR A SAINTS RETURN?**

**MAY 1:** Banished bad boy Dani Osvaldo is rumoured to be set to rejoin Saints after Juventus intimated they would be unlikely to sign the Italian on a permanent deal.

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **No pressure on me says Poch - Page 62**

I WON'T WRECK RICKIE'S BRAZIL DREAM

Poch vows not to risk striker's fitness

**Inside RUGBY** Dani Osvaldo could play for Saints

**CRICKET** Dani Osvaldo could play for Saints

**ANGLING** Review of the last day

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**CONTINUED ON PAGE 62**

**MAURICIO Pochettino will not risk Rickie Lambert's World Cup dream by insisting the striker plays through the pain barrier for the final two games of the season.**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **Sholing win at Wembley - Pages 45 & 34/39**

**NEW DEAL FOR POCH TO SIGN**

Offer is there for boss ... if he wants it

**Inside RUGBY** Adam Lallana and Luke Shaw

**CRICKET** Saints are celebrating after three of their star men – Rickie Lambert, Adam Lallana and Luke Shaw – are named in England's World Cup squad.

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**Saints go quiet on big bids for stars**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **Roy wants Saints pair's future settled - Page 44**

**BRAZIL-LIANT!**

1950-2010: Just four Saints in 13 England World Cup squads: 2014: Three Saints get the nod on a glorious day (Adam Lallana, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain was 'made' in Southampton too)

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**WORLD CUP SQUAD REACTION: PAGES 41/45**

**Saints go quiet on big bids for stars**

**Inside RUGBY** Adam Lallana and Luke Shaw

**CRICKET** Saints go quiet on big bids for stars

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**Saints go quiet on big bids for stars**

**MAY 3:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino states that he won't ruin Rickie Lambert's World Cup dream by making him play through the pain barrier for Saints.

**MAY 12:** In a bid to tie down manager Mauricio Pochettino, Saints offer the Argentinian a new contract.

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **SAINTS: Club must weather the storm - See pages 60-61**

**CLEARING THE WAY?**

**Sherwood is finally sacked by Tottenham**

**Is Poch being lined up as his replacement?**

**Inside NON-LEAGUE** Sholing star books new bosses - Page 48

**CRICKET** Derbyshire bats back - Page 48

**RUGBY** Eastleigh win Hart Beal - Page 48

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**CONTINUED ON PAGE 60-61**

**SACKED: Tim Sherwood's reign as Tottenham manager was brought to an end**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **ADAM'S FRENCH CONNECTION - See page 3**

**D ODD ONE OUT!**

Legend Jason sacked by Saints as youth coach; Shaw 'gutted' as Dodd's No 2 Williams axed too Mystery over bizarre timing of dismissals

**Inside CRICKET** Coles puts Hants command LOCAL CRICKET

**NON-LEAGUE** Teams join in a bit of fun - Page 48

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**SEE PAGES 60-61 FOR FULL STORY AND REACTION**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **NON-LEAGUE: Could Hill offer Reece a second chance? P69**

**HAMP-SHAH**

New signing Owais Shah to make his Hampshire t20 debut tonight

**Inside SAINTS** Sinclair on the radar - Page 48

**CRICKET** Previews the best of the weekend GOLF

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**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **Knight's mission to inspire Saints Cup trio - Page 45**

**Inside SAINTS** ENERGY

**GOLF** High fliers: Action from the EMX 250 race during the British Motorcycles Grand Prix Festival weekend at Hampshire's Motorplex

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**SPURS TO GET THEIR MAN?**

**Poch future set to be resolved as Londoners step up boss search**

**MAURICIO Pochettino's future as Saints boss is expected to be resolved in the coming days as the club accelerates its search for a new manager.**

**MAY 14:** Rumours linking Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino with a move to Spurs pace after Tim Sherwood is sacked at White Hart Lane.

**MAY 21:** Shock at Saints as youth coach and club legend Jason Dodd is given the sack.

**MAY 23:** Hampshire sign former England star Owais Shah for their T20 campaign.

**MAY 26:** Talk from Tottenham indicates that Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino is top of their wanted list as they step their search for a new manager.

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **NON-LEAGUE: City move for hotshot Bentley - Page 49**

**POCH IN TALKS AT TOTTENHAM**

**Inside MOTORCROS** Mattany is a big hit - Page 49

**GOLF** Hampshire are on a march - Page 49

**RUGBY** Saints star's England debut - Page 49

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**SAINTS are keeping themselves in the race for the manager of Mauricio Pochettino.**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **WHO IS FANCIED TO TAKE OVER AT ST MARY'S P56/57**

**POCH QITS SAINTS**

Manager's exit fuels fears of St Mary's player exodus

**Inside SAINTS** What now for Sam Horsley? - Page 56

**SAINTS** Lallana unsure about future - Page 56

**NON-LEAGUE** Hill hits back at critics - Page 57

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**SAINTS face a battle to prevent Mauricio Pochettino leaving St Mary's as increasing numbers leave the dressing room following the departure of manager Pochettino.**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **SAINTS: Wanyama rocked by Poch's exit - See page 43**

**KRUEGER: IT GETS WORSE**

- Europe's top bosses want the Saints job
- We did everything possible to keep Poch
- No need to sell star players but definitely changes to squad
- European football is ultimate aim

**Inside SAINTS** Sailing

**SAILING** Girls power toward big race - Page 43

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**EXCLUSIVE Q&A WITH SAINTS SUPREMO: PAGES 44-45**

**Your Sport** **Daily Echo** **SAINTS: Shaw set to miss England clash? - Page 59**

**IT GETS WORSE**

**Horror week for Saints fans goes on as talisman Lambert looks set to follow Pochettino out of St Mary's**

**Inside NON-LEAGUE** Sholing star joins Boro - Page 59

**CRICKET** Mike Vimpandy's return - Page 59

**RUGBY** Exeter City FC are your voleys - Page 59

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**Saints fans were last night sent into shock news that their talismanic striker Rickie Lambert is closing in on a dramatic move to Liverpool.**

**MAY 27:** After weeks of rumour, the news Saints fans were dreading is made official: Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino is in talks over a switch to Spurs.

**MAY 28:** Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino leaves Saints to make the switch to Tottenham.

**MAY 29:** Saints chairman Ralph Krueger moves to quell fan disquiet after the exit of boss Mauricio Pochettino.

# BUMPER YEAR OF SPORTS NEWS: MAY AND JUNE

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**Your Sport** Nightmare end to the top-six dream - Page 43



JUNE 2: Adam Lallana's move to Liverpool hits a snag as Saints dig their heels in over the price of their star man.

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**Your Sport** SAINTS: New boss will get transfer war chest - Page 48



JUNE 12: Defender Dejan Lovren becomes the latest Saints star to hand in a transfer request, with rumours linking him with Liverpool.

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**Your Sport** Great eight-page 2014/15 fixtures pullout - Pg 25-32



JUNE 19: Saints midfielder Adam Lallana gets set to face off against teammate Gaston Ramirez in England's must-win World Cup clash with Uruguay.

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**Your Sport** Loyalty a dirty word these days - Pg 60/61



JUNE 4: Dutchman Ronald Koeman is linked with the vacant managerial position at Saints and is backed for the job by former Saints boss and fellow Dutchman Mark Wotte.

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**Your Sport** Dell legend slams Saints for being a "feeder club" - Pg 44



JUNE 16: Saints close in on a replacement for Mauricio Pochettino in the hotseat, with Dutchman Ronald Koeman tipped to take over.

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**Your Sport** Ramirez makes eventful Cup cameo - Pg 61



JUNE 28: Luke Shaw makes his full England debut in the 0-0 with Costa Rica, as England exit the tournament.

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**Your Sport** Eastleigh are 'Pride of the Nation' - Pg 41



JUNE 8: Saints midfielder Morgan Schneiderlin is the latest Saints star to get an international call-up as he is added to the French squad.

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**Your Sport** Games call for Freya - Page 47



JUNE 17: Dutch legend and former Feyenoord boss Ronald Koeman is unveiled as Saints' new manager.

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**Your Sport** LAWRIE MAC: Saints legend's exclusive column - See page 59



JUNE 26: Saints bank close to £60m in one day as the deals taking Adam Lallana to Liverpool and Luke Shaw to Manchester United reach completion.

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**Your Sport** Saint Adam is England's best seller - Pg 88



JUNE 30: Italian Graziano Pelle and Serbian Dusan Tadic are rumoured to be Ronald Koeman's first signings for Saints.

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## **WHAT MADE THE BACK PAGE IN 2014? LOOKING BACK ON A**

**JULY 1:** Bad boy Dani Osvaldo was expected to join up with his former Saints teammates on the first day of pre-season training.

**JULY 3:** Defender Dejan Lovren tries to force a move from Saints to Liverpool by not turning up for pre-season training.

**JULY 9:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman makes his first signing for the club, bringing in Serbian playmaker Dusan Tadic.

**JULY 12:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman takes a firm line with want-away defender Dejan Lovren, who did not turn up for the first day of pre-season.

**JULY 14:** Disgruntled defender Dejan Lovren ended his self-imposed exile from Saints in time to take part on the club's pre-season tour.

**JULY 16:** New boss Ronald Koeman made a perfect start to his new job, as Saints secured a victory in the first game of the club's pre-season tour.

**JULY 18:** Graziano Pelle nets a double on his first appearance in a Saints shirt, which leads to a 6-0 pre-season tour win.

**JULY 19:** Dani Osvaldo was still to make an appearance at Saints' pre-season training, despite boss Ronald Koeman saying he expected the striker back.

**JULY 23:** Saints defender Jose Fonte was made captain and offered a new contract in a bid to prevent him joining the exodus from the club.

**JULY 26:** Saints are rocked by another transfer raid from a Premier League big gun, as this time Arsenal try to prize away defender Calum Chambers.

**JULY 30:** Saints midfielder Morgan Schneiderlin is the latest player to try to force a move from St Mary's after declaring his dissatisfaction with the club's ambition.

**JULY 31:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman brings in Chelsea defender Ryan Bertrand on a season-long loan deal

## **BUMPER YEAR OF SPORTS NEWS: JULY AND AUGUST**

**AUGUST 3:** Bad boy Italian striker Dani Osvaldo left Saints again, this time to join Inter Milan.

**AUGUST 7:** Saints close in on the capture of Celtic and England goalkeeper Fraser Forster, as well as clinching a deal for Saphir Taider.

A composite image for a sports magazine cover. On the left, a full-body shot of a footballer in a dark blue kit with yellow accents and a 'mu' logo, in mid-air during a game. In the center, a close-up of a player's face looking towards the camera. To the right, several text boxes and images. One box says 'BILLY Sharp will be handed a free transfer by Saints'. Another box below it says 'Billy has returned to Southampton after a loan spell at West Bromwich Albion. He has impressed new manager Mark Hales and is set to make his debut in the top flight for the new Premier League season.' A third box at the bottom right says 'Signed for £1.8m, Sharp can leave Saints on a free as a 'thank you' ...'. At the very bottom right is a barcode.

**AUGUST 8:** Saints allow out-of-favour striker Billy Sharp to leave the club. The Yorkshireman would sign a two-year deal with Leeds.

**AUGUST 11:** Saints make Celtic and England star Fraser Forster the fifth most expensive keeper in history after completing a £10m deal.

**AUGUST 13:** The Echo reveals that Saints are lining up a £12m deal to bring Hull City striker Shane Long to St Mary's.

**AUGUST 15:** Saints splash out £18.5m in one day as they complete deals for Hull City striker Shane Long and Romanian defender Florin Gardos.

**AUGUST 18:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman vows his side will “get things right” after an encouraging display in an opening day defeat at Liverpool.

The image is a composite of several magazine clippings and photographs. At the top left is an advertisement for Graham Russell Drums. The main title 'Your Sport' is in large red letters, with 'Daily Echo' above it and 'Football: Fry is the latest to sign on at Eastleigh - Page 53' below. Below the title is a large graphic reading 'JOSE COULDN'T BE MOR HAPPY'. To the right is a photo of a man in a suit. On the far right, there's a 'SAINTS' logo and a photo of a man in a cap. Below these are two more photos of men in suits. A central image shows a football player in a blue kit with 'mav' on the back, running on a pitch. To his right is a logo for Southampton Football Club. At the bottom left is a photo of a man with a caption about Morgan Schneiderlin. At the bottom right is a photo of another man with a caption about a clash.

**AUGUST 20:** Saints captain Jose Fonte states it "means everything" to have Morgan Schneiderlin declare he is staying at St Mary's.

A composite image featuring the front page of a newspaper. The main headline reads 'BYE-BYE BORUC' in large, bold letters. Below it, a photograph shows Artur Boruc, a Polish professional footballer, in a grey Liverpool FC kit, holding up a white shirt with his name on it. To the left of the main headline, there's a smaller headline 'Saints will let keeper move on after he asks to leave the club'. At the top of the page, there's a banner for 'Your Sport' and 'Daily Echo'. On the right side, there's a sidebar with the heading 'Inside CRICKET' and a photo of a cricketer. Below that, another sidebar is titled 'NON-LEAGUE' with a photo of a man in a yellow shirt. At the bottom right, there's a photo of Ronald Koeman, the manager of Southampton FC, with some text next to it. The overall layout is that of a British tabloid newspaper.

**AUGUST 22:** Saints keeper Artur Boruc is told he will be allowed to leave the club, with new arrival Fraser Forster being boss Ronald Koeman's first choice.

**AUGUST 27:** Striker Graziano Pelle and midfielder Jack Cork score their first goals for Saints in their side's League Cup second round win at Millwall.

**AUGUST 28:** Goalkeeper Fraser Forster says success with Saints, not earning the England keeper spot, is his first priority.

A composite image featuring a large photo of Southampton FC player Rickie Lee Johnson in a red and white striped shirt, looking towards the camera. To his left is a vertical column of text. At the top left is a logo for "GRAHAM RUSSELL DRUMS" with their address. The word "Your" is written vertically above "Sport". Below "Sport" is the headline "KOEMAN'S COOKING ON GAS". To the right of the main photo is a vertical column of five smaller images showing other footballers and managers, with captions like "Ron: Creative force Ramirez will not be leaving St Mary's", "Gaston Ramirez", "Adam Leitch", "Koeman", and "Saints" manager.

**AUGUST 29:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman declares he wants his “creative force” Gaston Ramirez to stay at the club. Ramirez would later join Hull on loan.

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# WHAT MADE THE BACK PAGE IN 2014? LOOKING BACK ON A

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Ron targets deadline day double - Page 42

**MORGAN-THE MERRIER**

**SEPTMBER 1:** Morgan Schneiderlin scores twice in Saints' 3-1 win over West Ham, and his summer efforts to leave the club are instantly forgotten.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Ramirez shock - Gaston joins the Tigers - Page 47

**DEADLINE DAY DOUBLE**

**Saints take their summer spree to around £60m**

**Inside SAINTS** **NON LEAGUE** **CRICKET** **WATERSPORT**

**SEPTMBER 2:** Saints sign Senegal winger Sadio Mane and bring in defender Toby Alderweireld on loan on transfer deadline day.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Welbeck at the double for England - P49

**Inside NON-LEAGUE** **CRICKET** **GOLF**

**TOBY READY FOR SAINTS CHANCE**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 9:** Saints' new signing Toby Alderweireld knows he has to fight for his place at St Mary's, despite his exploits at Atletico Madrid.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** I don't know how Franny does it - Pages 52-53

**LEGENDS UNITE**

**Inside SAINTS** **SAILING**

**SEPTMBER 11:** Saints legend Matt Le Tissier joins in for one leg of his former teammate Francis Benali's gruelling 1,000-mile charity run.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** BENALI: Saints legend returns to St Mary's - Page 62

**SAINTS' DREAM SUMMER**

**Krueger: We are much stronger now than we were last season**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 13:** Saints chairman Ralph Krueger declares himself pleased with the end result at St Mary's after a turbulent summer.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Franny's Big Run special - see pages 39-41

**FANTASTIC FOUR**

**Saints flying high and even Koeman admits he's been taken by surprise**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 15:** Saints put four goals past Newcastle to maintain their good start to the season and ex-Saint Francis Benali completes his 1,000-mile charity run.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** SAINTS: Morgan is thriving after French call - Page 48

**I'M KEEN TO STAY**

**but Jack isn't pushing for new deal talks yet**

**Inside EASTLIGH**

**SEPTMBER 16:** Saints midfielder Jack Cork, who is out of contract at the end of the season, declares he wants to stay at St Mary's.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Keeper Boruc joins Cherries on loan - Page 60

**THE NEW TALISMEN**

**FRESH HEROES: Pjanić, Pelle and Dusan Tadic have joined Southampton from Juventus, Liverpool and Besiktas respectively**

**SEPTMBER 18:** Saints legend Terry Paine says new signings Dusan Tadic and Graziano Pelle are able replacements for Rickie Lambert and Adam Lallana.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Hunt makes a splash to win dive title - p38

**QUALITY SECONDS**

**Best start in 26 years as Saints join frontrunners**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 22:** Saints go to second in the Premier League table after Victor Wanyama scores in a 1-0 win at Swansea.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** New boy Mane so quick to impress - P54

**CAPITAL GAIN**

**Arsenal stunned by Ron's super Saints**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 24:** Saints' dream start to the season continues with a 2-1 League Cup third round win over Arsenal at the Emirates.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** CRICKET: Hants closing in on the title - Page 53

**LALLANA SOLD SAINTS TO ME**

**Adam talked Forster into Saints move**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 26:** Saints keeper Fraser Forster reveals it was England teammate and ex-Saint Adam Lallana who convinced him to switch to St Mary's from Celtic.

**DRUMS** **Your sport** **Daily Echo** Ex-Saints turn out for little Evelyn - Page 5

**PELLE: I'M A BELIEVER**

**Gordon Simpson**

**Saints striker Graziano Pelle is hoping to break into the Italian national team and believes he deserves to be called up**

**Inside**

**SEPTMBER 28:** Saints striker Graziano Pelle declared he hoped he would get a call-up to the Italy squad, after his spectacular goal saw Saints beat QPR 2-1.

# BUMPER YEAR OF SPORTS NEWS: SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER



**OCTOBER 3:** Saints defender Nathaniel Clyne is celebrating after becoming the latest Saints star to be called up to the England squad.



**OCTOBER 6:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman is not happy about the reception the club's fans gave his predecessor Mauricio Pochettino in Saints' 1-0 defeat at Tottenham.



**OCTOBER 9:** It is revealed that Saints winger Sadio Mane may miss a large chunk of the season as he will be on duty with Senegal in the Africa Nations Cup.



**OCTOBER 11:** Saints legend Jimmy Case says that Saints boss Ronald Koeman has his side playing in a way that will make even the Premier League big guns fearful.



**OCTOBER 14:** Saints forward Graziano Pelle continues his great start to the season by scoring on his international debut for Italy.



**OCTOBER 17:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman moves to distance himself from speculation linking him with the vacant position as manager of Holland.



**OCTOBER 18:** Ronald Koeman and Graziano Pelle pick up the Premier League's manager and player of the month awards respectively.



**OCTOBER 20:** Saints make the front page of the Echo as they smash Sunderland 8-0 at St Mary's.



**OCTOBER 21:** Stats reveal that Saints' belting start to the season has put them among Europe's best in terms of goals scored and conceded.



**OCTOBER 26:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman's playing system is credited for his side's increasing number of goals coming from his central midfielders.



**OCTOBER 27:** Saints win 1-0 at Stoke, thanks to Sadio Mane's strike, to maintain their great start to the season and keep them second in the Premier League table.



**OCTOBER 28:** Saints' defender Ryan Bertrand, who is on a season-long loan deal from Chelsea, declares he wants to make his Saints stay permanent.

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## **WHAT MADE THE BACK PAGE IN 2014? LOOKING BACK ON A**

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**NOVEMBER 1:** Saints winger Dusan Tadic reveals he is loving life at his new club after a dream start to the season.

**NOVEMBER 3:** Saints midfielder Victor Wanyama continues his impressive scoring run as he nets the only goal in a 1-0 away win at Hull City.

**NOVEMBER 5:** Former Saints ace Claus Lundekvam reveals how highly he rates Saints captain Jose Fonte, saying he is the key to the club's stunning start to the season.

**Graham Russell**  
**DRUMS**

**Your** **Bally Echo** **Gimpel reveals**  
**sport** **the science of**  
**Saints - Page 48**

**Eight-PAGE GUIDE TO SAINTS' NEW £39M TRAINING COMPLEX INSIDE**

# SAINTS VISION

**New multi-million-pound facility  
is 'best investment  
the club could  
make' says Reed**

**Cardron  
Simpson**

Stadium executive director Lee Reed believes that £39m revamp of the Staplewood training ground represents the best sort of investment the club could make.

The incredible new complex, which features state-of-the-art facilities and a modern design, has been designed to meet the needs of the club's future development. Reed is delighted by the level of investment, and feels it will help the club to continue to grow and succeed.

"I think it definitely is the best investment," said Reed. "It's a massive amount of money and time has been invested in it, and I'm really excited to see what we can achieve here."

The development features the striking Matrix London building, which houses the club's offices. The modern Kitchens, performed the first training session at the new complex, and the club's players and staff are looking forward to using the facilities.

**REED'S LAST WORD - LEISURE** **THIS WEEKEND** **VISIT STAPLEWOOD FOR** **SANTYS FESTIVAL OF SPORTS & LEISURE**

**Inside**  
**SAILING**  
  
Walker off to wind start - page 46  
**ANGLING**  
  
Catch the latest to the lake - page 46  
**SAINTS**  
  
Lasting legacy club's success - page 46

Festival of sports in the New Forest, organised by the Hampshire County Council, will be held at the Forest Office from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 10th August.

**NOVEMBER 6:** Saints' new £30m training ground revamp is unveiled to great acclaim

The image consists of two parts. The left side shows the front page of the 'Daily Echo' sports section. The headline reads 'SAINTS v Leicester: Big match preview See pages 60-61'. Below it is a large red title 'Your sport'. A main feature has a large red 'HIGHLIGHT' box containing the text 'Higher expectations after great start brings new challenges for Koeman'. To the right of the text is a black and white photograph of Ronald Koeman, wearing a suit and gesturing with his hands while speaking. The right side of the image is a vertical strip containing several smaller photographs and headlines. At the top is a photo of a football player in action. Below it is a box for 'Saints set to face... page 61'. Further down is a photo of a man in a suit with the text 'Saints set to make history - page 61'. At the bottom is a photo of a man in a suit with the text 'RUGBY'. At the very bottom is a photo of a man in a suit with the text 'Providing leadership action - page 61'. A barcode is at the bottom right.

**NOVEMBER 7:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman reveals that increased fan expectation was bringing greater pressure to him and his side.

**NOVEMBER 10:** Saints striker Shane Long finally gets off the mark after his £12m summer move from Hull, netting twice in a 2-0 win over Leicester.

**NOVEMBER:** Saints' on-loan full-back Ryan Bertrand hits out after being overlooked for England despite a solid start to the season for his new club

A composite image featuring a football player in a white Serbia national team kit with the number 10, looking towards the right. To the left, there is a portrait of Dusan Tadic, a Serbian international, and at the bottom left, there is a portrait of Gordon Simpson, the editor of the magazine. The background is a blurred stadium scene.

**NOVEMBER 14:** Saints midfielder Dusan Tadic is part of the Serbia side involved in an abandoned game with Albania after a drone is flown into the stadium.

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**NOVEMBER 16:** Saints right-back Nathaniel Clyne makes his England debut in the 3-1 win over Slovenia.

**NOVEMBER 17:** Saints' head of recruitment Paul Mitchell leaves the club to be reunited with ex-Saints boss Mauricio Pochettino at Tottenham.

**NOVEMBER 19:** A bumper night of international games sees all six Saints stars in action for their countries get wins.

**NOVEMBER 24:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman is a worried man ahead of Saints' busy Christmas fixture list, with Man City, Chelsea and Man United up next.

## **BUMPER YEAR OF SPORTS NEWS: NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

**DECEMBER 3:** Saints boss Ronald Koeman emphasises the need to bring in new faces in January after injury-hit Saints fall to a 3-0 defeat at home to Manchester City.

**DECEMBER 4:** Saints fall to another defeat, this time going down 1-0 to Arsenal, but injuries to Toby Alderweireld and Jack Cork are more worrying for boss Ronald Koeman.

**DECEMBER 6:** The full extent of Saints midfielder Jack Cork's injuries become clear and he is ruled out for six weeks.

The image is a composite of two photographs. The top half shows a football player in a red and white striped jersey with 'veho' on the front, running on a pitch. The bottom half is a newspaper clipping from the 'Daily Echo' with a large red banner across the top reading 'Your Sport'. The banner has 'Daily Echo' written vertically next to it. Below the banner, the text 'Hill blames ref for Eastleigh FA Cup exit - P42-43' is visible. To the left of the banner, there is a smaller image of a stadium with spectators. The main headline on the newspaper page reads 'DON'T WRITE US OFF' in large, bold, black letters. Below this, a sub-headline says 'Saints can still get top 4 says Long'. At the bottom of the page, there is a column of text and a small photo of a man.

**DECEMBER 8:** Saints striker Shane Long maintains his side can still finish in the top four, despite suffering consecutive defeats for the first time this season.

**DECEMBER 9:** Missed chances and errors at the back contribute to Saints' home defeat at the hands of Manchester United.

**DECEMBER 10:** Jake Hesketh is the latest young Saint to make his first team debut and, elsewhere, the Saints youth team progress in the FA Youth Cup.

**DECEMBER 12:** Saints manager Ronald Koeman says he wants to bring in two new faces in January to bolster his faltering Saints squad.

**DECEMBER 15:** Saints slip to a fourth defeat in four games, with Dusan Tadic missing a penalty on the way to a 1-0 defeat at Burnley.

**DECEMBER 17:** Saints are stunned in the Capital One Cup quarter-final, putting in an abject display in a 1-0 defeat at League 1 Sheffield United.

**DECEMBER 19:** A run of five straight defeats looks to get worse for Saints as injuries and suspensions ravage their squad.

**DECEMBER 20:** Saints face matching their worst losing run since 1957, if they were to fall to a home defeat against Everton.

**DECEMBER 22:** Saints' win over Everton at St Mary's gets their season back on track after a run of five straight defeats threatened to undo their early good work.

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# SPORTSCALENDAR 2015



## JANUARY

### ATHLETICS

24 Glasgow International

### CRICKET

- 5-7 Soweto: South Africa Invitation XI v England Lions
- 11-14 Paarl: South Africa A v England Lions
- 12 Canberra: ACT XI v England
- 14 Canberra: PM's XI v England
- 16 Tri-Series, Sydney: Australia v England
- 18 Tri-Series, Melbourne: Australia v India
- 18-21 Bloemfontein: South Africa A v England Lions
- 20 Tri-Series, Brisbane: England v India
- 23 Tri-Series, Hobart: Australia v England
- 25 First ODI, Bloemfontein: South Africa A v England Lions
- 26 Tri-Series, Sydney: Australia v India
- 28 Second ODI, Kimberley: South Africa A v England Lions
- 30 Tri-Series, Perth: England v India
- 31 Third ODI, Potchefstroom: South Africa A v England Lions

### DARTS

- Dec 18-Jan 4 London: PDC World Championship  
3-11 Frimley Green: BDO World Championship

### FOOTBALL

- 3-4 FA Cup third round
- 14 JPT area final first legs
- 17-Feb 8 Equatorial Guinea: Africa Cup of Nations
- 20-21 Capital One Cup semi-final first legs
- 24-25 FA Cup fourth round
- 27-28 Capital One Cup semi-final second legs

### GOLF

- 8-11 Johannesburg: South African Open  
9-12 Hawaii: Tournament of Champions  
15-18 Abu Dhabi: HSBC Championship  
21-24 Doha: Qatar Masters  
29-Feb 1 Dubai Desert Classic

### RACING

- 1 Cheltenham New Year Meeting  
24 Cheltenham Trials Meeting

### RUGBY UNION

- 15-18 European Challenge Cup
- 16-18 European Champions Cup
- 22-25 European Challenge Cup
- 23-25 European Champions Cup
- 31-Feb 1 LV= Cup

### SNOOKER

- 11-18 London: The Masters

### TENNIS

- 4-11 Brisbane International  
5-11 Doha: Qatar Open  
11-18 Sydney International  
19-Feb 1 Melbourne: Australian Open

## FEBRUARY

### AMERICAN FOOTBALL

- 1 Arizona: Super Bowl 49

### ATHLETICS

- 14-15 Sheffield: British Indoor Champs  
21 Birmingham: Indoor Grand Prix

### CRICKET

- 1 Perth: Tri-Series final
- 2 Fourth ODI, Pretoria: South Africa A v England Lions
- 5 Fifth ODI, Benoni: South Africa A v England Lions
- 9 World Cup warm-up: England v W Indies
- 10 World Cup warm-up: Ireland v Scotland
- 11 World Cup warm-ups: England v Pakistan, Ireland v Bangladesh, Scotland v West Indies
- CRICKET WORLD CUP**
- 14 Melbourne: Australia v England
- Christchurch: NZ v Sri Lanka
- 15 Adelaide: India v Pakistan
- Hamilton: South Africa v Zimbabwe
- 16 Nelson: Ireland v West Indies
- 17 Dunedin: New Zealand v Scotland
- 18 Canberra: Afghanistan v Bangladesh
- 19 Nelson: UAE v Zimbabwe
- 20 Wellington: New Zealand v England
- 21 Brisbane: Australia v Bangladesh
- Christchurch: Pakistan v West Indies
- 22 Dunedin: Afghanistan v Sri Lanka
- Melbourne: India v South Africa
- 23 Christchurch: England v Scotland
- 24 Canberra: West Indies v Zimbabwe
- 25 Brisbane: Ireland v UAE
- 26 Dunedin: Afghanistan v Scotland
- Melbourne: Bangladesh v Sri Lanka
- 27 Sydney: South Africa v West Indies
- 28 Auckland: New Zealand v Australia
- Perth: India v UAE



## CRICKET WORLD CUP AUSTRALIA, FEB 14-MAR 29

### FOOTBALL

- 4 JPT area final second legs
- 14 FA Cup fifth round
- 17-18 Champions League last 16 first legs
- 19 Europa League last 32 first legs
- 24-25 Champions League last 16 first legs
- 26 Europa League last 32 second legs

### GOLF

- 5-8 Kuala Lumpur: Malaysian Open
- 12-15 Hua Hin: Thailand Classic
- 19-22 New Delhi: Indian Open
- 26-Mar 1 Johannesburg Open

### MOTOR CYCLING

- 22 Philip Island: Australian World Superbike Championship

### RACING

- 7 Newbury: Betfair Hurdle
- 14 Ascot: Ascot Chase
- 21 Ascot: Kempton Park Chase

### RUGBY LEAGUE

- 7-8 Super League season starts
- 15 Championship season starts
- 20 World Club Challenge, Warrington v St George Illawarra
- 21 World Club Challenge, Wigan v Brisbane
- 22 World Club Challenge, St Helens v South Sydney

### RUGBY UNION

- 6 Six Nations, Wales v England
- 7 Six Nations, France v Scotland, Italy v Ireland
- 14 Six Nations, England v Italy, Ireland v France
- 15 Six Nations, Scotland v Wales
- 28 Six Nations, Scotland v Italy, France v Wales

### SNOOKER

- 16-22 Cardiff: Welsh Open

### TENNIS

- 3-7 Budapest: Fed Cup Europe/Africa I
- 7-8 Fed Cup World Group first round
- 9-15 Rotterdam: ABN AMRO World Tennis
- 15-21 Dubai Duty Free Champs (women)
- 23-Mar 1 Dubai Duty Free Champs (men)
- 23-Mar 1 Doha: Qatar Open

### MARCH

### ATHLETICS

- 6-8 Prague: European Indoors

### CRICKET

- 1 Wellington: England v Sri Lanka
- 2 Brisbane: Pakistan v Zimbabwe
- 3 Canberra: Ireland v South Africa
- 4 Perth: Australia v Afghanistan
- Pakistan v United Arab Emirates
- 5 Nelson: Bangladesh v Scotland
- 6 Perth: India v West Indies
- 7 Hobart: Ireland v Zimbabwe
- Auckland: Pakistan v South Africa
- 8 Sydney: Australia v Sri Lanka
- Napier: New Zealand v Afghanistan
- 9 Adelaide: England v Bangladesh
- 10 Hamilton: India v Ireland
- 11 Hobart: Scotland v Sri Lanka
- 12 Wellington: South Africa v UAE
- 13 Sydney: Afghanistan v England
- Hamilton: NZ v Bangladesh
- 14 Hobart: Australia v Scotland
- Auckland: India v Zimbabwe
- 15 Adelaide: Ireland v Pakistan
- Napier: UAE v West Indies
- 18 Sydney: First quarter-final
- 19 Melbourne: Second quarter-final
- 20 Adelaide: Third quarter-final
- 21 Wellington: Fourth quarter-final
- 24 Auckland: First semi-final
- 25 Sydney: Second semi-final
- 29 World Cup final, Melbourne

## FOOTBALL

- 1 Wembley: Capital One Cup final
- 7 FA Cup quarter-finals
- 10-11 Champions League last 16 second legs
- Europa League last 16 first legs
- 15 Scottish League Cup final
- 17-18 Champions League last 16 second legs
- 19 Europa League last 16 second legs
- 22 Johnstone's Paint Trophy final
- 24 European Championship qualifying: England v Lithuania
- 29 European Championship qualifying: Scotland v Gibraltar, N Ireland v Finland, Rep Ireland v Poland
- Wembley: FA Trophy final
- TBC: England v Italy

### GOLF

- 5-8 East London: Africa Open
- 19-22 Madeira: Madeira Islands Open

### MOTOR CYCLING

- 22 Chang: Thailand World Superbikes

### MOTOR RACING

- 15 Melbourne: Australian Grand Prix

### RACING

- 7 Imperial Cup, Sandown
- 10-13 Cheltenham Festival
- 28 Lincoln, Doncaster

### RUGBY UNION

- 1 Six Nations, Ireland v England
- 7-8 LV= Cup

- 14 Six Nations, England v Scotland, Wales v Ireland
- 15 Six Nations, Italy v France
- 21 Six Nations, England v France, Italy v Wales, Scotland v Ireland

### TENNIS

- 6-8 Davis Cup World Group first round

## APRIL

### ATHLETICS

- 26 London Marathon

### CRICKET

- 6-7 St Kitts: TBC v England
- 8-9 St Kitts: TBC v England
- 12-15 County Championship starts
- 13-17 First Test, Antigua: W Indies v England
- 21-25 Second Test, Grenada: W Indies v England

### FOOTBALL

- 5 Petrofac Cup final, Livingston v Alloa
- 14-15 Champions League quarter-final 1st legs
- 16 Europa League quarter-final first legs
- 18-1 FA Cup semi-finals
- 21-22 Champions League quarter-final second legs
- 23 Europa League quarter-final second legs

### GOLF

- 9-12 Georgia: US Masters

### MOTOR CYCLING

- 12 Aragon: Spanish World Superbike Championship
- 19 Assen: Netherlands World Superbikes

### MOTOR RACING

- 12 Shanghai: Chinese Grand Prix
- 19 Sakhir: Bahrain Grand Prix

### RACING

- 11 Aintree: Grand National
- 18 Ayr: Scottish National
- 25 Sandown: Bet365 Gold Cup

### ROWING

- 11 London: 161st Boat Race

### RUGBY UNION

- 3-5 Champions Cup knockout stages
- 3-5 Challenge Cup knockout stages

- 19 Champions Cup semi-finals
- 19 Challenge Cup quarter-finals

### SNOOKER

- 18-May 4 Sheffield: World Championship

### TENNIS

- 13-19 Monte Carlo Masters
- 18-19 Fed Cup World Group semi-finals
- 20-26 Barcelona Open

### MAY

### ATHLETICS

- 15 Doha: Diamond League
- 17 Shanghai: Diamond League
- 30 Eugene: Diamond League

### CRICKET

- 1-5 Third Test, Barbados: W Indies v England
- 8 Dublin: Ireland v England ODI
- 15 T20 Blast starts
- 21-25 First Test, Lord's: England v NZ
- 29-Jun 2 Second Test, Headingley: England v NZ

### CYCLING

- 9-31 Giro d'Italia

### FOOTBALL

- 5-6 Champions League semis first legs
- 7 Europa League semi-final first legs
- 12-13 Champions League semis second legs
- 14 Europa League semis second legs
- 23 Rotterdam: ABN AMRO World Tennis
- 24 Wembley: League Two play-off final
- 25 Wembley: Championship play-off final
- 27 Warsaw: Europa League final
- 30 Wembley: FA Cup final
- 30 Glasgow: Scottish Cup final

### GOLF

- 7-10 Florida: The Players Championship



## RUGBY WORLD CUP POOL A

Fri	Sept 18	Twickenham Stadium
Sun	Sept 20	Millennium Stadium
Wed	Sept 23	Millennium Stadium
Sat	Sept 26	Twickenham Stadium
Sun	Sept 27	Villa Park
Thurs	Oct 1	Millennium Stadium
Sat	Oct 3	Twickenham Stadium
Tues	Oct 6	Stadium MK
Sat	Oct 10	Twickenham Stadium
Sat	Oct 10	Manchester City Stadium

## RUGBY WORLD CUP POOL B

Sat	Sept 19	Brighton Community Stadium
Sun	Sept 20	Brighton Community Stadium
Wed	Sept 23	Kingsholm Stadium
Sat	Sept 26	Villa Park
Sun	Sept 27	Elland Road
Sat	Oct 3	Stadium MK
Sat	Oct 3	St James' Park
Wed	Oct 7	Olympic Stadium
Sat	Oct 10	St James' Park
Sun	Oct 11	Kingsholm Stadium

## RUGBY WORLD CUP POOL C

Sat	Sept 19	Kingsholm Stadium
Sun	Sept 20	Wembley Stadium
Thurs	Sept 24	Olympic Stadium
Fri	Sept 25	Kingsholm Stadium
Tues	Sept 29	Sandy Park
Fri	Oct 2	Millennium Stadium
Sun	Oct 4	Leicester City Stadium
Wed	Oct 7	Sandy Park
Fri	Oct 9	St James' Park
Sun	Oct 11	Leicester City Stadium

## RUGBY WORLD CUP POOL D

Sat	Sept 19	Millennium Stadium
Sat	Sept 19	Twickenham Stadium
Wed	Sept 23	Olympic Stadium
Sat	Sept 26	Elland Road
Sun	Sept 27	Wembley Stadium
Thurs	Oct 1	Stadium MK
Sun	Oct 4	Leicester City Stadium
Tues	Oct 6	Sandy Park
Sun	Oct 11	Leicester City Stadium
Sun	Oct 11	Millennium Stadium



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# SPORTSCALENDAR 2015

## MOTOR CYCLING

- 10 Imola: Italian World Superbike Championship  
24 Donington Park: British World Superbike Championship

## MOTOR RACING

- 10 Barcelona: Spanish Grand Prix  
24 Monte Carlo: Monaco Grand Prix

## RACING

- 2 Newmarket: 2000 Guineas  
3 Newmarket: 1000 Guineas  
6-9 Chester: May Festival  
13-17 York: May Meeting  
16 Newbury: Lockinge

## RUGBY UNION

- 1 London: Challenge Cup final  
2 Champions Cup final  
22-23 PRO12 semi-finals  
23-24 Premiership semi-finals  
30 Twickenham: Premiership final  
30 PRO12 final  
30 Champions Cup qualifying play-off

## TENNIS

- 3-10 Madrid Open  
11-17 Rome: Italian Open  
17-23 Strasbourg International  
24-Jun Paris: French Open

## JUNE

- ### ATHLETICS
- 4 Rome: Diamond League  
7 Birmingham: British Grand Prix  
11 Diamond League  
13 New York: Diamond League
- ### CRICKET
- 9 First ODI, Edgbaston: England v NZ  
12 Second ODI, The Oval: England v NZ

## LD CUP 2015

- ### A
- England v Fiji  
Wales v Uruguay  
Australia v Fiji  
England v Wales  
Australia v Uruguay  
Wales v Fiji  
England v Australia  
Fiji v Uruguay  
Australia v Wales  
England v Uruguay
- ### B
- South Africa v Japan  
Samoa v USA  
Scotland v Japan  
South Africa v Samoa  
Scotland v USA  
Samoa v Japan  
South Africa v Scotland  
South Africa v USA  
Samoa v Scotland  
USA v Japan

- ### C
- Tonga v Georgia  
New Zealand v Argentina  
New Zealand v Namibia  
Argentina v Georgia  
Tonga v Namibia  
New Zealand v Georgia  
Argentina v Tonga  
Namibia v Georgia  
New Zealand v Tonga  
Argentina v Namibia

- ### D
- Ireland v Canada  
France v Italy  
France v Romania  
Italy v Canada  
Ireland v Romania  
France v Canada  
Ireland v Italy  
Canada v Romania  
Italy v Romania  
France v Ireland

- 14 Third ODI, Southampton: England v NZ  
17 Fourth ODI, Trent Bridge: England v NZ  
20 Fifth ODI, Chester-le-Street: England v NZ  
23 T20, Old Trafford: England v NZ

## FOOTBALL

- 6 Berlin: Champions League final  
6-Jul 5 Canada: Women's World Cup  
7 Dublin: Rep of Ireland v England  
12 European Championship qualifying: Wales v Belgium  
13 European Championship qualifying: Northern Ireland v Romania; Republic of Ireland v Scotland  
14 European Championship qualifying: Slovenia v England  
17-30 Czech Rep: UEFA Under-21 Champs.

## GOLF

- 18-21 Seattle: US Open

## MOTOR CYCLING

- 7 Portimao: Portuguese World Superbikes  
21 Misano: Italian World Superbikes

## MOTOR RACING

- 7 Montreal: Canadian Grand Prix  
21 Spielberg: Austrian Grand Prix

## RACING

- 5 Epsom: The Oaks  
6 Epsom: The Derby  
16-20 Ascot: Royal Ascot

## TENNIS

- 8-14 's-Hertogenbosch Open  
8-14 Stuttgart: Mercedes Cup  
8-14 Nottingham: Aegon Open (women)  
15-21 London: Aegon Championships  
15-21 Birmingham: Aegon Classic  
15-21 Halle: Gerry Weber Open  
22-28 Eastbourne: Aegon International  
22-28 Nottingham: Aegon Open (men)  
29-Jul 12 Wimbledon

## JULY

### ATHLETICS

- 4 Paris: Diamond League  
9 Lausanne: Diamond League  
17 Monaco: Diamond League  
24-25 London Grand Prix  
30 Stockholm: Diamond League

### CRICKET

- 8-12 First Test, Cardiff: England v Australia  
16-20 Second Test, Lord's: England v Australia  
21 First Women's ODI, Taunton: England v Australia  
23 Second Women's ODI, Bristol: England v Australia  
25 One-Day Cup starts  
26 Third Women's ODI, Worcester: England v Australia  
29-Aug 2 Third Test, Edgbaston: England v Australia

### GOLF

- 4-26 Tour de France  
16-19 St Andrews: The Open  
30-Aug 2 Aberdeen: Paul Lawrie Match Play

### MOTOR CYCLING

- 5 Moscow: Russian World Superbike Championship  
19 Laguna: US World Superbike Championship

### MOTOR RACING

- 5 Silverstone: British Grand Prix  
19 TBC: German Grand Prix  
26 Budapest: Hungarian Grand Prix

### RACING

- 4 Sandown: Eclipse  
11 York: John Smith's Cup  
25 Ascot: King George Meeting  
28-Aug 1 Goodwood: Glorious Goodwood

### TENNIS

- 17-19 Davis Cup quarter-finals



## WORLD ATHLETICS BEIJING, AUG 20-30

## AUGUST

### ATHLETICS

- 20-30 Beijing: World Championships

### CRICKET

- 6-10 Fourth Test, Trent Bridge: England v Australia  
11-14 Women's Test, Kent: England v Australia  
20-24 Fifth Test, The Oval: England v Australia  
26 First Women's T20, Chelmsford: England v Australia  
27 ODI, Belfast: Ireland v Australia  
28 Second Women's T20, Hove: England v Australia  
29 Edgbaston: NatWest T20 Blast finals  
31 T20, Cardiff: England v Australia

### FOOTBALL

- 1 TBC: Scottish season starts  
8 TBC: Football League season starts  
15 TBC: Premier League season starts  
11 Tbilisi: European Super Cup

### GOLF

- 6-9 Ohio: WGC-Bridgestone Invitational  
13-16 Wisconsin: US PGA Championship

### HOCKEY

- 21-30 London: European Championship

### MOTOR CYCLING

- 2 Sepang: Japan World Superbike Championship  
30 Donington Park: British GP Championship

### MOTOR RACING

- 23 Spa: Belgian Grand Prix

### RACING

- 19-22 York: Ebor meeting

### RUGBY LEAGUE

- 29 Wembley: Challenge Cup final

### RUGBY UNION

- 15 Twickenham: England v France

- 22 Paris: France v England

### TENNIS

- 10-16 Montreal: Rogers Cup (men)  
10-16 Toronto: Rogers Cup (women)

- 17-23 Cincinnati Open

- 31-Sep 13 New York: US Open

- 24-27 Georgia: Tour Championship

## MOTOR RACING

- 6 Monza: Italian Grand Prix  
20 Yas Marina: Singapore Grand Prix  
27 Suzuka: Japanese Grand Prix

## RACING

- 5 Haydock: Sprint Cup  
12 Doncaster: St Leger  
19 Ayr: Ayr Gold Cup  
24-26 Newmarket: Cambridgeshire Meeting

## RUGBY UNION

- 5 Twickenham: England v Ireland  
18-Oct 31 England: World Cup

## TENNIS

- 18-20 Davis Cup semi-finals  
21-27 Tokyo: Toray Pan Pacific Open

## OCTOBER

### FOOTBALL

- 8 European Championship qualifying: N Ireland v Greece, Rep Ireland v Germany, Scotland v Poland  
9 European Championship qualifying: England v Estonia  
10 European Championship qualifying: Bosnia-Herzegovina v Wales  
11 European Championship qualifying: Finland v N Ireland, Gibraltar v Scotland, Poland v Rep Ireland  
12 European Championship qualifying: Lithuania v England  
13 European Championship qualifying: Wales v Andorra

### GOLF

- 8-11 Incheon: Presidents Cup

## MOTOR CYCLING

- 4 Magny-Cours: French World Superbikes  
4 Silverstone: British Superbike Championship  
18 Losail: Qatar World Superbike Championship

## MOTOR RACING

- 11 Sochi: Russian Grand Prix  
25 Austin: United States Grand Prix

## RACING

- 17 Ascot: British Champions Day  
24 Doncaster: Racing Post Trophy

## RUGBY LEAGUE

- 10 Manchester: Super League Grand Final

## TENNIS

- 5-11 Beijing: China Open  
5-11 Tokyo: Japan Open  
12-18 Shanghai: Rolex Masters  
26-Nov 1 Basel: Swiss Indoors  
26-Nov 1 Valencia Open  
26-Nov 1 Singapore: WTA Tour finals

## NOVEMBER

### AMERICAN FOOTBALL

- 1 Wembley: Kansas City v Detroit Lions

### FOOTBALL

- 17 Wembley: England v France

## MOTOR RACING

- 1 Mexico City: Mexican Grand Prix  
15 Interlagos: Brazilian Grand Prix  
29 Abu Dhabi Grand Prix

## RACING

- 7 Doncaster: November Handicap  
13-15 Cheltenham: The Open  
21 Haydock: Betfair Chase  
28 Newbury: Hennessy Gold Cup

## TENNIS

- 2-8 Paris: BNP Paribas Masters  
14-15 Fed Cup World Group final  
15-22 London: ATP Tour finals  
27-29 Davis Cup final  
0-29 Houston: IWF World Championships

## DECEMBER

### CRICKET

- 15-17 Tour match, Potchefstroom: South Africa XI v England  
20-22 Tour match, Pietermaritzburg: South Africa XI v England

- 26-30 1st Test, Durban: South Africa v England

## RACING

- 5 Sandown: Tingle Creek Chase  
26 Kempton: King George VI Chase

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# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** Manchester United slipped to their sixth defeat of the Barclays Premier League season with a 2-1 home loss to Tottenham. Michael van Gerwen, a 24-year-old Dutchman, won darts' Ladbrokes World Championship at Alexandra Palace with a 7-4 score over Peter Wright.

**2** Ole Gunnar Solskjær was appointed the new manager of Cardiff, replacing Malkay Mackay at the helm. Stoke manager Mark Hughes was fined £8,000 after admitting a misconduct charge following his touchline dismissal in December's defeat at Newcastle.

**3** Southampton refused to accept the decision by the Professional Game Match Officials Limited to rule out action against Mark Clattenburg after he was accused of verbally abusing midfielder Adam Lallana.

**4** Arsenal swept aside north London rivals Tottenham 2-0 at the Emirates Stadium to take their place in the fourth round of the FA Cup, while the biggest shock of the day saw Aston Villa beaten 2-1 at home by Sheffield United. Bayern Munich confirmed Robert Lewandowski would join them from Bundesliga rivals Borussia Dortmund in the summer.

**5** Australia beat England by 281 runs in the final Ashes Test in Sydney, completing a 5-0 series whitewash. Ten-man Manchester United lost 2-1 at home to Swansea in the third round of the FA Cup.

Former Portugal forward Eusebio died at the age of 71.

**6** Arsenal confirmed Theo Walcott would miss the rest of the season and the World Cup after suffering an anterior cruciate ligament injury. Kevin Pietersen brushed off rumours of retirement and signalled his intention to help England regain the Ashes. Michael Schumacher's condition remained stable but critical and he was under constant monitoring at the Grenoble hospital following a skiing accident on December 29.

**7** Fabio Borini scored the winning goal as Sunderland beat Manchester United 2-1 in the first leg of the Capital One Cup semi-final at the Stadium of Light. It was the first time United had lost three successive matches for the first time since May 2001.

**8** FIFA's secretary general Jerome Valcke gave the strongest hint yet of a winter World Cup in 2022. Former Aston Villa, West Ham and Germany international midfielder Thomas Hitzlsperger announced he was gay in a bid to break the taboo of homosexuality in sport.

**9** West Brom confirmed Pepe Mel as their new head coach on an 18-month contract. Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers was fined £8,000 and warned as to his future conduct for criticising referee Lee Mason by the Football Association.

**10** Olympic heptathlon champion Jessica Ennis-Hill announced she was pregnant and would miss the summer's Commonwealth Games.

**11** Adam Johnson scored a hat-trick as Sunderland won 4-1 at fellow Premier League strugglers Fulham.

**12** Manchester City moved to the top of the league with a controversial 2-0 victory at Newcastle.



**NEW JOB:** Ole Gunnar Solskjær joined Cardiff



**RESIGNATION:** Nicola Cortese quit Saints



**PASSED AWAY:** Eusebio died aged 71



**DEPARTURE:**  
Dani Osvaldo left  
Saints for a loan  
spell at Juventus



**DIED:** Sir Chris Chataway was 82 years old



**WINNER:** Australian Open champ Stanislas Wawrinka



**PRIZE:** Cristiano Ronaldo won the Ballon d'Or

England suffered another heavy defeat in Australia as they lost the first one-day international by six wickets.

Stephen Bunting won the BDO World Darts Championship with a 7-4 victory over Alan Norris in the final.

**13** Real Madrid forward Cristiano Ronaldo won the Ballon d'Or. Laura Robson and Heather Watson both made first round exits on a bad opening day for the Brits at the Australian Open.

**14** Stoke confirmed a double transfer swoop as they signed Stephen Ireland on a permanent deal from Aston Villa and John Guidetti on loan from Manchester City.

**15** Chelsea spent £20.75million to bring Nemanja Matic back to the club from Benfica, three years after selling him as a makeweight in the David Luiz deal. Southampton chairman Nicola Cortese submitted his resignation from the club.

**16** Bernie Ecclestone stood down as a director of Formula One's holding company until court proceedings against him were concluded. Hull had an undisclosed offer for striker Shane Long accepted by West Brom.

**17** Eoin Morgan's brilliant century was not enough for England to finally beat Australia after the hosts snatched a dramatic one-wicket victory in the second one-day international. Representatives of the 14 current Super

# JANUARY

League clubs voted to cut the division to 12 at the end of the 2014 season.

**18** Andy Murray beat Spaniard Feliciano Lopez to reach the second week of the Australian Open without dropping a set. Manchester United midfielder Anderson completed his loan move to Fiorentina, while Chelsea sold Kevin de Bruyne to Wolfsburg.

**19** Sir Chris Chataway, who in 1954 broke the 5,000 metres world record and was named the first-ever BBC Sports Personality of the Year, died at the age of 82.

Samuel Eto'o scored a hat-trick as Chelsea severely dented Manchester United's title hopes with a 3-1 victory at Stamford Bridge. Ronnie O'Sullivan clinched his fifth Masters title with a 10-4 win over 2013 champion Mark Selby at Alexandra Palace.

**20** Former French diplomat Jerome Champagne announced his intent to run for the FIFA presidency in 2015.

**21** West Brom's Nicolas Anelka was charged by the Football Association over his 'quenelle' gesture. Three-time defending champion Novak Djokovic was knocked out of the Australian Open by Stanislas Wawrinka.

**22** Sunderland reached the Capital One Cup final after beating Manchester United on penalties. Andy Murray was knocked out of the Australian Open after losing to Roger Federer in the quarter finals.

**23** Stanislas Wawrinka reached a grand slam final for the first time as he beat Tomas Berdych at the Australian Open.

**24** England beat Australia by 57 runs in the fourth one-day international. Rafael Nadal beat Roger Federer to reach the Australian Open final.

**25** Manchester United completed the club-record £37.1 million capture of Juan Mata from Chelsea. Li Na defeated Dominika Cibulkova to win the Australian Open final.

**26** Stanislas Wawrinka beat Rafael Nadal to win the Australian Open.

**27** Michael Essien's eight-and-a-half-year spell at Chelsea ended after AC Milan signed the Ghanaian midfielder on undisclosed terms.

**28** Liverpool defeated Everton 4-0 at Anfield in the 222nd Merseyside derby.

**29** Yohan Cabaye left Newcastle to sign for Paris St Germain. England Women retained the Ashes with a nine-wicket win in their first Twenty20 international against Australia, but the men lost their corresponding fixture by 13 runs.

**30** England head coach Stuart Lancaster announced uncapped backs Luther Burrell and Jack Nowell would be given their debuts in the RBS 6 Nations match against France.

**31** Andy Flower stepped down as England team director. On a relatively low-key transfer deadline day, Arsenal signed midfielder Kim Kallstrom, Dimitar Berbatov moved from Fulham to Monaco and Dani Osvaldo left Southampton for Juventus – all on loan deals.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** England lost 26-24 to France in heart-breaking fashion in their opening RBS 6 Nations match at the Stade de France in Paris, substitute Gael Fickou striking with a last try.

**2** Andy Murray beat Sam Querrey to give Great Britain victory in the Davis Cup World Group clash with the United States, securing the country's place in the quarter-finals for the first time since 1986.

**3** Joe Kinnear resigned as Newcastle's director of football after just eight months in the role. Leeds manager Brian McDermott returned to work after being dismissed on Friday but reinstated on Saturday.

**4** Kevin Pietersen's England career came to an end after the batsman was omitted from the tour of the Caribbean and the ICC World Twenty20. Swansea "parted company" with manager Michael Laudrup after a run of just one win in 10 league games.

**5** David Beckham announced he had taken up the option to buy a new Major League Soccer franchise in Miami.

**6** England named an unchanged starting XV and bench for the Six Nations clash with Scotland at Murrayfield, while Scotland captain Kelly Brown was dropped completely from the the Dark Blues' squad.

**7** Nemanja Vidic confirmed his intention to leave Manchester United at the end of the season. British number two Dan Evans reached his first ATP Tour semi-final with victory over third seed Philipp Kohlschreiber in the Zagreb Open.

**8** England got their Six Nations campaign back on track with a 20-0 win over Scotland at Murrayfield while Ireland beat a poor Wales team 26-3. Norway's Ole Einar Bjoerndalen won the biathlon 10km sprint to equal the record of 12 Winter Olympic medals.

**9** Jenny Jones won Great Britain's first Winter Olympic medal on snow when she finished third in the snowboard slopestyle event in Sochi.

**10** Cardiff's Craig Bellamy was given a three-match ban by the Football Association for punching Swansea's Jonathan de Guzman, but Manchester City's Yaya Toure escaped sanction after he appeared to kick Norwich's Ricky van Wolfswinkel. England batsman Eoin Morgan withdrew from the Indian Premier League player auction, while Kevin Pietersen signed a contract to play for Surrey. Great Britain's Jack Whelbourne crashed out of the 1500 metres short track speed skating final at the Winter Olympics.

**11** Great Britain's women's curling team recorded the first win of their Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics campaign in emphatic style by defeating the United States 12-3 inside six ends. Britain's Katie Summerhayes finished outside of the podium places in the Winter Olympics ski slopestyle event.

**12** Steven Gerrard scored a last-gasp penalty as Liverpool moved to within four points of the Barclays Premier League summit after a 3-2 win at Fulham. Paul Collingwood was named England assistant coach for the limited-overs tour of the West Indies and World Twenty20 in Bangladesh, while Angus Fraser was appointed as an England selector. Switzerland's Dominique Gisin and Slovenia's Tina Maze shared the Olympic



downhill skiing title after finishing with the exact same time.

**13** Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean produced an emotional performance of their Bolero routine in front of 5,000 adoring spectators in Sarajevo – 29 years and 364 days after their historic Olympic gold medal there. Manchester City were granted planning permission to expand the capacity of the Etihad Stadium to more than 60,000.

**14** Former England and Preston winger Sir Tom Finney died aged 91.

Lizzy Yarnold won Great Britain's first gold medal of the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics after winning the women's skeleton. Fulham replaced Rene Meulensteen with former Bayern Munich coach Felix Magath, who signed an 18-month contract as manager.

**15** Short track speed skater Elise Christie suffered Winter Olympics heartache for the second time in a week

as she was disqualified in her 1500 metres heat at the Iceberg Skating Palace. The Scot also revealed she had been the target of online abuse as a result of colliding with two rivals in the 500m final.

Russian freestyle skier Maria Komissarova suffered a fractured spine in a training accident at the Sochi Winter Olympics.

**16** British halfpipe skier Rowan Cheshire was knocked unconscious in a training accident at the Rosa Khutor Extreme Park in Sochi.

# FEBRUARY

**17** Great Britain and England rugby league international Sam Burgess agreed to a cross-code move to Bath on a three-year deal, starting in October. Brendon McCullum became the first New Zealander to pass 300 in a Test match, scoring 302 against India.

**18** Manchester City lost the first leg of their Champions League last 16 tie against Barcelona 2-0, with defender Martin Demichelis sent off.

**19** Great Britain's men's curling team ensured at least a silver medal at the Winter Olympics after beating Sweden in their semi-final, but the women's team lost to Canada. Norwegian biathlete Ole Einar Bjoerndalen became the most decorated Winter Olympian of all time after winning his 13th medal in the mixed relay.

**20** Great Britain's women won a curling bronze medal by beating Switzerland 6-5 in the Winter Olympics. Formula One motor sport boss Bernie Ecclestone won a multi-million-pound High Court fight with a German media company.

**21** Wayne Rooney signed a new five-and-a-half-year contract at Manchester United. Great Britain won a silver medal in the men's curling at the Winter Olympics after losing the final to Canada. Wales beat France 27-6 in the Six Nations.

**22** England ruined Brian O'Driscoll's Twickenham farewell and created a four-way shootout for the Six Nations title by ending Ireland's Grand Slam quest with a 13-10 win, while Duncan Weir's last-gasp drop goal earned Scotland a 21-20 victory over Italy in a Rome contest between teams desperate to avoid the wooden spoon.

**23** England were drawn against Switzerland, Slovenia, Estonia, San Marino and Lithuania in their 2016 European Championship qualifying group.

**24** Jamaican sprinter Veronica Campbell-Brown was cleared to race again by the Court of Arbitration for Sport after testing positive for a banned diuretic in May 2013.

**25** Manchester United suffered a 2-0 loss to Olympiacos in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 tie in Greece.

Bradford Bulls were docked six points as punishment for the club going into administration.

Joe Root scored an unbeaten 104 as England claimed a nervy 29-run victory against The Vice Chancellor's XI in the first match of their West Indies tour.

**26** Former Saint Gareth Bale scored twice as Real Madrid thrashed Schalke 6-1 away from home.

Kent all-rounder Darren Stevens was cleared by an International Cricket Council anti-corruption tribunal.

**27** West Brom striker Nicolas Anelka was suspended for five games and fined £80,000 following an investigation into his 'quenelle' gesture.

Southampton full-back Luke Shaw was called into the England squad for the first time for the friendly against Denmark.

**28** England lost the first one-day international to the West Indies by 15 runs in Antigua despite a century from Michael Lumb. Joanna Rowsell won the three-kilometre individual pursuit title at the World Track Championships in Colombia.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** Alan Pardew was fined £100,000 and formally warned by Newcastle following an extraordinary touchline flashpoint in which he headbutted Hull's David Meyler during his team's win at the KC Stadium. Ricky Burns lost his WBO lightweight title on a unanimous points decision to the impressive Terence Crawford in Glasgow.

**2** Manchester City produced a second-half comeback to beat Sunderland 3-1 in the Capital One Cup final. Ronnie O'Sullivan made a record 12th competitive 147 break to complete a 9-3 win over Ding Junhui in the Welsh Open final.

**3** South Africa captain Graeme Smith announced his retirement from international cricket. Andy Flower was appointed as technical director of elite coaching at the England and Wales Cricket Board.

**4** Manager Roy Hodgson confirmed sports psychiatrist Dr Steve Peters would help prepare England in the build up to the summer's World Cup in Brazil. Wembley Stadium was confirmed as the venue for Carl Froch's defence of his IBF and WBA super-middleweight titles in the much-anticipated re-match with George Groves on May 31.

**5** England beat Denmark 1-0 in a friendly while Wales saw off Iceland 3-1 and Scotland won 1-0 in Poland. England's 25-run victory over the West Indies which sealed a 2-1 series win was overshadowed by controversy over the umpires' decision to change the ball.

**6** Arsenal midfielder Jack Wilshere was ruled out for six weeks after it was announced he had suffered a hairline fracture in his left foot during England's international against Denmark.

**7** Former British tennis number one Elena Baltacha revealed she had been diagnosed with cancer of the liver. David Moyes sprang to the defence of Tom Cleverley after an online petition was launched calling for the Manchester United midfielder to be excluded from England's World Cup squad.

**8** Brian O'Driscoll bade an emotional but victorious farewell to the Aviva Stadium in Dublin as Ireland kept their RBS 6 Nations title hopes alive with a crushing 46-7 win over Italy.

France forward Olivier Giroud scored twice as Arsenal beat Everton 3-1 to book their place in the FA Cup semi-finals.

**9** England won their first Triple Crown for 11 years and stayed firmly on course for the Six Nations title after defeating reigning champions Wales 29-18 in glorious Twickenham sunshine. Jordi Gomez and James Perch struck as Wigan stunned Manchester City again to keep their FA Cup defence going with a 2-1 win at the Etihad Stadium..

**10** Kelly Gallagher and guide Charlotte Evans won Great Britain's first-ever gold medal at the Winter Paralympics with victory in the women's visually-impaired super-G in Sochi. Jade Etherington and guide Caroline Powell won bronze.

**11** Arsenal were eliminated from the Champions League. They drew 1-1 at the Allianz Arena giving Bayern Munich a 3-1 aggregate victory. Newcastle manager Alan Pardew was handed a seven-match suspension for his headbutt on Hull's David Meyler.

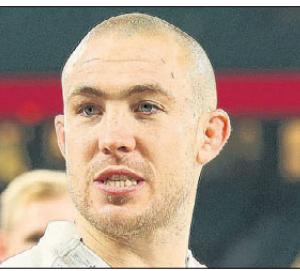
**12** Manchester City were knocked out of the Champions League. They lost 2-1 to Barcelona, 4-1 on aggregate. Jade Etherington and guide Caroline



**RETIREMENT:** South Africa captain Graeme Smith left international cricket



**RECORD:** Ronnie O'Sullivan racked up his 12th competitive 147 break



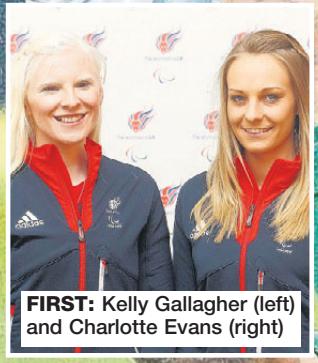
**AWARD:** England's Mike Brown was named Six Nations player of the tournament



**FAIRYTALE FINISH:**  
Ireland's Brian O'Driscoll ended his international career with a Six Nations title



**'SHORTER ROPE':**  
Michael Carberry spoke out



**FIRST:** Kelly Gallagher (left) and Charlotte Evans (right)



**SILVER:** Jade Etherington

Powell won silver in the women's slalom for visually impaired athletes at the Winter Paralympics in Sochi.

**13** Chris Jordan starred with bat and ball as England won the third Twenty20 game against the West Indies by five runs, losing the series 2-1.

**14** West Brom sacked striker Nicolas Anelka, citing "gross misconduct". Lord Windermere came from last to first to snatch victory in the Betfred Cheltenham

Gold Cup.

**15** Johnny Sexton's two tries helped Brian O'Driscoll complete the fairytale ending to his international career as Ireland claimed the Six Nations title by edging out France 22-20 in Paris.

Lewis Hamilton equalled Nigel Mansell's pole record for a British driver as he qualified fastest for the Australian Grand Prix.

**16** Nico Rosberg claimed victory in the season opening Australian Grand

Prix after team-mate Lewis Hamilton retired while home favourite Daniel Ricciardo finished second but was then disqualified for a fuel infringement.

Exeter secured their first major silverware as they clinched the LV Cup with a 15-8 victory over Northampton at Sandy Park.

**17** The Football Association's membership committee made a "unanimous recommendation" to its council to reject Hull City's request to change their playing name to Hull Tigers.

# MARCH

**18** Chelsea beat Galatasaray 2-0 to reach the quarter-finals of the Champions League.

**19** Robin van Persie scored a hat-trick as Manchester United overturned a 2-0 first-leg deficit to beat Olympiacos 3-2 on aggregate and reach the Champions League quarter-finals. Andy Murray announced that he and coach Ivan Lendl had mutually agreed to end their two-year partnership.

**20** Tottenham were knocked out of the Europa League at the last-16 stage by Benfica, going out 5-3 on aggregate following a 2-2 second-leg draw in Lisbon.

**21** England full-back Mike Brown was named as the Six Nations player of the tournament.

**22** Chelsea ruined Arsene Wenger's 1,000th game as Arsenal manager by winning 6-0. Arsenal's Kieran Gibbs was sent off in a case of mistaken identity after a handball by Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, despite the winger owning up to the offence. England lost their opening game at the World Twenty20 to New Zealand on the Duckworth-Lewis system.

**23** Tottenham came from 2-0 down to beat Southampton 3-2 in the Barclays Premier League, Gylfi Sigurdsson with a stoppage-time winner. Andy Murray eased into the last 16 of the Sony Open in Miami with a 6-4 6-1 win over Feliciano Lopez.

**24** Amir Khan announced he would make his welterweight debut against Luis Collazo on the undercard of Floyd Mayweather's fight with Marcos Maidana in Las Vegas on May 3.

**25** Bayern Munich wrapped up their 24th Bundesliga title with seven matches to spare. Britain's four-time Winter Olympian Chemmy Alcott announced that she intended to retire from racing following the British Alpine Championships in April.

**26** Defending Sony Open champion Andy Murray was knocked out of the quarter-finals of the tournament in Miami by Novak Djokovic. Celtic clinched the Scottish Premiership title with a 5-1 win over Partick Thistle.

**27** Manchester United greets Paul Scholes, Ryan Giggs, Nicky Butt and the Neville brothers clubbed together to buy Salford City, subject to FA and league approval. UEFA approved the new 'League of Nations' tournament which would replace most international friendlies from 2018.

**28** Leeds United players agreed to defer 50 per cent of their wages for March after the club's owners, Gulf Finance House Capital, failed to pay them the full amount.

**29** England's hopes of making the World Twenty20 semi-finals were extinguished after they lost a do-or-die shootout with South Africa by three runs.

**30** Lewis Hamilton won the Malaysian Grand Prix, with Mercedes teammate Nico Rosberg finishing second. Novak Djokovic lifted the Sony Open title in Miami with victory over world number one Rafael Nadal in the final.

**31** England Test opener Michael Carberry questioned the communication skills of those charged with running the side and claimed he had been given a "shorter rope" than other players.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

# APRIL

**1** Tiger Woods announced he would miss the Masters after undergoing successful microdiscectomy surgery on a pinched nerve.

**2** Barcelona announced they would appeal against a year-long transfer ban imposed on them by FIFA for breaching the governing body's rules on the transfer of players aged under 18.

Tottenham said they could leave White Hart Lane for a new stadium in three years.

**3** Aston Villa and Belgium striker Christian Benteke was ruled out for six months due to a ruptured Achilles tendon, ending his World Cup hopes.

Stuart Pearce was announced as the new Nottingham Forest manager, taking up the post from July 1.

**4** England booked their place in the final of the women's World Twenty20 with a comfortable nine-wicket win over South Africa in Dhaka.

**5** Manchester City kept the pressure on in the Premier League title race with a 1-1 win over Southampton in a match which saw England striker Jay Rodriguez suffer a knee injury.

Leicester won promotion to the Premier League after QPR and Derby lost.

Pineau De Re claimed Crabbie's Grand National glory at Aintree for trainer Dr Richard Newland and jockey Leighton Aspell.

**6**: Norwich announced the sacking of manager Chris Hughton, replacing him with youth coach Neil Adams. Lewis Hamilton survived a pulsating battle with Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg in the Bahrain Grand Prix to clinch back-to-back victories for the first time in four years.

**7** Southampton confirmed Jay Rodriguez would miss the World Cup, with a ruptured cruciate ligament ruling him out for six months.

**8** Chelsea won through to the semi-finals of the Champions League with a 2-0 win over Paris St Germain, meaning they progressed on the away goals rule. Massimo Cellino officially completed his takeover of Leeds.

**9** Manchester United's hopes of silverware were dashed as Bayern Munich sent them out of the Champions League at the quarter-final stage.

**10** Former world 100m record holder Asafa Powell received an 18-month ban for failing a drugs test.

**11** Sir Dave Brailsford quit his position as British Cycling performance director after 11 years.

**12** Arsenal beat Wigan in a penalty shootout to reach the final of the FA Cup. The match finished 1-1 after extra-time. Bath edged out Gloucester 18-17 in a dramatic Aviva Premiership derby which saw their opponents finish with just 11 men on the pitch.

Wolves won promotion back to the Championship with a 2-0 victory at Crewe, courtesy of goals from Kevin McDonald and Dave Edwards.

**13** American Bubba Watson carded a closing 69 and finished eight under par to claim his second Masters title in three years.

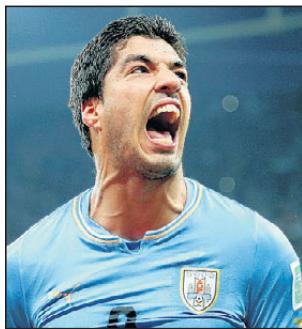
Hull reached the FA Cup final with a dramatic 5-3 win over Sheffield United. Leaders Liverpool boosted their hopes of a first league title in 24 years with a thrilling 3-2 win over Barclays Premier League rivals Manchester City at Anfield.



**DIED:** Barcelona coach Tito Vilanova was 46



**WRIST SURGERY:** Laura Robson



**PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** Luis Suarez

**14** Stefano Domenicali resigned as team principal of Ferrari after their poor start to the Formula One season. It was confirmed the world's most successful Olympian, Michael Phelps, was to come out of retirement and compete at a domestic swimming meeting in the United States.

**15** A sombre memorial service took place at Anfield to mark 25 years since the Hillsborough disaster claimed the lives of 96 Liverpool fans.

**16** Gareth Bale scored Real Madrid's winner against Barcelona as he collected the first major trophy of his career, the Copa Del Rey.

Peter Ebdon failed to reach snooker's World Championship proper for the first time since 1992.

**17**: British number one Laura Robson announced she would miss the French Open and Wimbledon after deciding to have wrist surgery. Craig Hall won the 221st Hull derby for

Hull KR with a drop goal 46 seconds from time that earned his side a thrilling 21-20 win over Hull FC.

**18** England batsman Jonathan Trott announced he would take an indefinite break from all cricket after suffering a repeat of the stress-related illness which forced his early departure from the 2013-14 Ashes series.

**19** Peter Moores was named the new England head coach by the England

and Wales Cricket Board. Jose Mourinho was left fuming at referee Mike Dean after Sunderland won 2-1 at Stamford Bridge, ending Mourinho's unbeaten home league record in a result with major implications at both ends of the table.

Lewis Hamilton cemented his place in British Formula One history by claiming the 34th pole position of his Formula One career.

**20** Liverpool kept themselves in pole position for the Barclays Premier League title with a thrilling 3-2 win away to relegation-battling Norwich. David Moyes suffered a miserable return to former club Everton, who beat Moyes' Manchester United 2-0. Lewis Hamilton added another flourish for the record books, winning a third consecutive Grand Prix for the first time in his career as he led from start to finish in China.

**21** Burnley were promoted to the Premier League with a 2-0 victory over Wigan at Turf Moor. Stevenage were relegated from League One after losing 3-1 at home to Bristol City.

**22** David Moyes was sacked as Manchester United manager after only 10 months in charge. Leicester clinched the Championship title with a 1-0 win at Bolton.

**23** Paul Farbrace was named as assistant to England's returning cricket coach Peter Moores.

**24** Borussia Dortmund coach Jurgen Klopp ruled himself out of the running to become manager at Manchester United, insisting he had not even been approached by the club.

Lasith Malinga was appointed Sri Lanka's Twenty20 captain following a decision to relieve Dinesh Chandimal of his leadership duties.

**25** Former Barcelona coach Tito Vilanova died of throat cancer at the age of 45.

**26** Ryan Giggs saw Manchester United beat Norwich 4-0 in his first game in charge at Old Trafford after the sacking of David Moyes.

**27** Chelsea beat Liverpool 2-0 to blow the title race back open, and Manchester City took advantage with a 2-0 win away to Crystal Palace. Liverpool's Luis Suarez was named PFA Player of the Year, with Chelsea's Eden Hazard taking the Young Players' award.

**28** Dani Alves' unconventional handling of the racist abuse he suffered during Barcelona's Primera Division match at Villarreal received growing support on social media on Monday as his fellow professionals posted images of themselves posing with bananas.

**29** Ajax boss Frank de Boer admitted he was open to speaking with Tottenham about taking over as manager at the end of the season.

Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling was banned for life from the NBA and fined 2.5million US dollars after being found guilty of making racist comments on tape.

**30** Chelsea missed out on a place in the Champions League final as they were beaten 3-1 at home in the second leg of their semi-final by Atletico Madrid after a goalless first leg.

Tottenham winger Andros Townsend was ruled out of the World Cup with an ankle injury.

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# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**MAY**

**1** Graham Gooch left his role as England Test batting coach after being informed by captain Alastair Cook that the skipper "was in favour of a change".

**2** Sprinter Tyson Gay accepted a one-year ban and a loss of results dating back to July 2012 after testing positive for a prohibited substance.

**3** Cardiff and Fulham were relegated from the Premier League. Manchester City's win over Everton meant the Toofees could not finish in the top four, guaranteeing Arsenal's place in the Champions League and FA Cup finalists Hull's Europa League berth.

Birmingham survived relegation from the Championship thanks to Paul Caddis' last-minute equaliser against Bolton, sending Doncaster down in their place. Carlisle and Tranmere were relegated from League One and Bristol Rovers from League Two, with Chesterfield taking the fourth-tier title and Scunthorpe and Rochdale also promoted.

**4** Former British number one Elena Baltacha died after a battle against liver cancer. She was 30. Chelsea's title hopes were effectively ended with a goalless draw at home to relegation-battling Norwich. Chris Froome won the final stage of the Tour de Romandie to successfully defend his title in Switzerland.

**5** Liverpool blew a 3-0 lead in the final 15 minutes at Selhurst Park as Crystal Palace came back to draw 3-3 and deal them a huge blow in the title race. Mark Selby completed a come-from-behind victory to beat Ronnie O'Sullivan 18-14 in the World Snooker Championship final, the first time five-time champion O'Sullivan has lost in the final at the Crucible.

Luis Suarez was named the Football Writers' Association player of the year.

**6** Nemanja Vidic played his final game at Old Trafford for Manchester United as the Red Devils beat Hull 3-1.

Pakistan pace great Waqar Younis was appointed for a second spell as the country's head coach.

Manchester City were facing UEFA sanctions for breaching financial fair play rules which would see the club fined up to £50million and limited to a 21-man Champions League squad.

**7** Manchester City beat Aston Villa 4-0 at the Etihad Stadium to move within touching distance of the Barclays Premier League title.

Sunderland secured their survival in the top flight with a 2-0 win over West Brom. Swansea confirmed the appointment of Garry Monk as the club's first-team manager on a three-year contract.

**8** Football Association chairman Greg Dyke set a target of increasing the number of English players in the Premier League from 32 per cent to 45 per cent by 2022 in his England Commission report.

**9** England won their rain-affected one-day international against Scotland at Aberdeen by 39 runs.

**10** Lewis Hamilton made it four pole positions in five races by topping the qualifying for the Spanish Grand Prix. Harlequins beat Bath 19-16 to climb above their opponents into fourth place and snatch an Aviva Premiership play-off spot on a nail-biting final day at the Stoop.

**11** Manchester City were crowned Barclays Premier League champions following their 2-0 victory over West Ham.

Norwich's relegation from the Premier League was confirmed after they were beaten 2-0 by Arsenal at Carrow Road. Defender Ashley Cole announced his international retirement after he was left out of the England World Cup squad.



**CHANGE:** England batting coach Graham Gooch



**CONFUSION:** Yaya Toure



**BOSS:** Louis van Gaal



**LEAVING:**  
Mauricio  
Pochettino  
moved from  
Saints to  
Tottenham



**CRASHED OUT:** Serena Williams



**YOUNG PLAYER OF THE YEAR:** George Ford



**DIED:** Elena Baltacha was 30 years old

**12** Roy Hodgson's 23-man England squad for Brazil included 20-year-old Everton midfielder Ross Barkley, along with teenagers Raheem Sterling and Luke Shaw.

Defender Rio Ferdinand confirmed he would leave Manchester United in the summer after 12 years at the club. Manager Pepe Mel left West Brom by mutual consent.

**13** Tottenham parted company with manager Tim Sherwood, exercising a break clause in his 18-month contract. Michael Carrberry was recalled to

England's limited-overs squad to face the touring Sri Lanka side.

**14** Sevilla won the Europa League, beating Benfica on penalties.

Premier League figures revealed Cardiff earned more from finishing bottom of the Barclays Premier League than Manchester United earned as champions the previous season, while United's own earnings rose almost £30m to £89.1m.

**15** Stephen Lee had his appeal against a 12-year ban from snooker for

match-fixing dismissed. Manchester United's pay-off for David Moyes was revealed to be "single-digit millions".

**16** UEFA confirmed Manchester City had been fined 60million euros (£47m), of which 40million (£31.5m) was suspended, for breaching financial fair play regulations.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter admitted it was a "mistake" to choose Qatar to host the 2022 World Cup. Lionel Messi agreed a new contract with Barcelona.

**17** Arsenal won their first trophy in nine years by beating Hull 3-2 at Wembley to claim the FA Cup. Atletico Madrid were crowned Primera Division champions for the first time since 1996.

**18** Miguel Angel Jimenez finally won the Spanish Open at the 27th attempt to extend his own record as the oldest winner in European Tour history.

**19** Louis Van Gaal was appointed as Manchester United's new manager on a three-year contract after the World Cup. Ryan Giggs was named as his assistant and the Old Trafford great announced the end of his playing career.

**20** A day of confusion and farce surrounding Yaya Toure seemingly ended with the player expressing his unhappiness at Manchester City. The City midfielder initially appeared to contradict claims from his outspoken agent that he could quit the club this summer because he felt under-appreciated.

**21** The Football Association ratified new rules which would see any professional player in English football banned from betting on any matches anywhere in the world from next season. George Ford was voted 2014 young player of the year at the Rugby Players Association awards dinner in Battersea.

**22** Neil Lennon resigned as manager of Celtic. Former Sussex players Lou Vincent and Naved Arif were charged with match-fixing by the England and Wales Cricket Board.

**23** Northampton beat Bath 30-16 to win the Amlin Challenge Cup.

**24** Real Madrid defeated Atletico Madrid 4-1 to win the Champions League final in Lisbon. Toulon defeated Saracens 23-6 to become only the third club, along with Leicester and Leinster, to win back-to-back Heineken Cup titles in the 19th and final season of the competition. QPR secured promotion to the Barclays Premier League after they defeated Derby 1-0 in the Championship play-off final.

**25** Rory McIlroy came from seven shots behind to claim a remarkable victory in the BMW PGA Championship. Nico Rosberg returned to the top of the Formula One podium with a lights-to-flag Monaco Grand Prix victory.

**26** Manager Brendan Rodgers signed a new contract with Liverpool. Fleetwood were promoted for the sixth time in 10 seasons after beating Burton 1-0 in the Sky Bet League Two play-off final.

**27** Tottenham appointed Mauricio Pochettino as their new head coach on a five-year contract. Andy Murray beat Andrey Golubev in the first round of the French Open.

**28** Top seed Serena Williams crashed out of the second round of the French Open at the hands of unfancied Spaniard Garbine Muguruza.

**29** Sunderland signed Spanish midfielder Jordi Gomez from Wigan on a three-year contract.

**30** Lancashire announced former England all-rounder Andrew Flintoff had come out of retirement to join their squad for this year's NatWest T20 Blast. Manager Brian McDermott left Leeds by mutual consent.

**31** Carl Froch stopped George Groves in the eighth round to retain the IBF and WBA super-middleweight titles at Wembley. Northampton beat Saracens 24-20 in the Aviva Premiership final at Twickenham.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

# JUNE

**1** Japan's Hideki Matsuyama won the Memorial Tournament, his first PGA Tour title, in a play-off with American Kevin Na.

**2** Frank Lampard announced he was leaving Chelsea after 13 years and 11 major trophies at Stamford Bridge. Wakefield coach Richard Agar stepped down from his post and was replaced by assistant James Webster. Liverpool confirmed the signing of England striker Rickie Lambert from Southampton for an undisclosed fee.

**3** Sri Lanka beat England by six wickets at Edgbaston to clinch their one-day series 3-2. Gloucester announced the signing of Wales star James Hook.

**4** England drew 2-2 with Ecuador in a World Cup warm-up game which saw Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain suffer an injury which ruled him out of the tournament. Andy Murray beat Gael Monfils in five sets to set up a French Open semi-final with Rafael Nadal. Simona Halep and Andrea Petkovic won their semi-finals in the women's draw.

**5** UEFA president Michel Platini said there should be a re-vote and sanctions if it is proved corruption was involved in Qatar's successful World Cup bid. Sir Trevor Brooking announced he would retire from his role as the FA's director of football development after the World Cup.

**6** Andy Murray was hammered by Rafael Nadal in the French Open semi-finals, while Novak Djokovic beat Ernests Gulbis.

**7** England drew 0-0 with Honduras in their final World Cup warm-up game in Miami, which was interrupted by a 40-minute lightning storm. Maria Sharapova defeated Simona Halep to win her second French Open title. Spain and Argentina warmed up for the World Cup with 2-0 wins over El Salvador and Slovenia respectively.

**8** Rafael Nadal beat Novak Djokovic to win his ninth French Open title and his fifth in succession, extending his win-loss record at Roland Garros to 66-1. Andy Murray appointed France's two-time grand slam winner Amelie Mauresmo as his new coach. Nico Rosberg won the Canadian Grand Prix as Mercedes team-mate Lewis Hamilton failed to finish.

**9** FIFA president Sepp Blatter claimed allegations of corruption surrounding the Qatar 2022 World Cup bid were steered by "discrimination and racism".

**10** England's football chiefs rounded on FIFA president Sepp Blatter, telling him he must stand down next year and that his claim racism was behind World Cup corruption allegations was "offensive and totally unacceptable".

**11** FIFA delegates dealt a crushing blow to moves to bring in term limits and age limits for officials – effectively giving the green light for president Sepp Blatter to stand for a fifth term in 2015. Bradford Bulls lost their appeal against their six-point deduction imposed by the Rugby Football League for entering administration.

**12** Brazil beat Croatia 3-1 in the opening game of the World Cup. Cesc Fabregas joined Chelsea from Barcelona on a five-year contract.

Sam Robson, Moeen Ali and Chris Jordan made debuts for England in the first Investec Test against Sri Lanka at Lord's.



**SIGNING:** Rickie Lambert joined Liverpool



**INJURED:** Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain



**WIN:** For Maria Sharapova in the French Open



**NEW MAN FOR SAINTS:** Ronald Koeman was appointed to the St Mary's job this month



**DOUBLE CENTURY:** Joe Root hit 200 not out



**COACH:** Amelie Mauresmo joined Andy's Murray's team



**SOLD:** Luke Shaw joined Manchester United

**13** Holland thrashed holders Spain 5-1 in their World Cup opener. Joe Root finished 200 not out – his maiden Test double-century at Lord's – as England posted 575 for nine declared on the second afternoon of the first Investec Test against Sri Lanka.

**14** England lost 2-1 to Italy in their opening match of the World Cup. In rugby union internationals, New Zealand beat England 28-27, South Africa defeated Wales 38-16, Scotland beat

Canada 19-17 and Ireland won 23-17 over Argentina.

West Brom named Everton academy manager Alan Irvine as their new head coach.

**15** Five weeks after a wire-to-wire victory in golf's unofficial fifth major, Martin Kaymer repeated the trick in one of the official ones with an utterly dominant display in the US Open at Pinehurst.

**16** Michael Schumacher's manager confirmed the seven-times Formula

One world champion was no longer in a coma and had left the hospital in Grenoble where he had been receiving treatment. Southampton named Ronald Koeman as their new manager.

**17** Nottinghamshire went top of the LV\_ County Championship Division One after chasing down a target of 385 to beat Middlesex by six wickets.

**18** Reigning World Cup champions Spain were eliminated from the

World Cup after losing 2-0 to Chile.

**19** England were beaten 2-1 by Uruguay to stand on the verge of World Cup elimination. Leading Light, trained by Aidan O'Brien and ridden by Joseph O'Brien, won the Gold Cup at Royal Ascot. One Direction singer Louis Tomlinson and former club owner John Ryan completed their takeover of Doncaster.

**20** England were officially eliminated from the World Cup following Costa Rica's surprise 1-0 victory over Italy. Stuart Broad became the first Englishman to take two Test hat-tricks, against Sri Lanka at Headingley.

**21** Sam Robson made his maiden Test century for England on day two of the second Test against Sri Lanka at Headingley. The Australia-born opener made a patient 127. England concluded their rugby union series against New Zealand with an error-ridden 36-13 defeat as the All Blacks amassed a record-equalling 17th successive victory.

**22** Nico Rosberg won the Austrian Grand Prix to claim his third victory this season. Moeen Ali took two late wickets for England just as Sri Lanka - 106 runs ahead on 214 for four at stumps - threatened to take control on day three of the second Investec Test at Headingley.

**23** Andy Murray started the defence of his Wimbledon title with a straight-set win over David Goffin. Helena Costa, who had been named as the first female coach of a professional men's club in the top two tiers of any European league, opted not to take up her post with Clermont.

**24** Luis Suarez found himself at the centre of another biting storm in Uruguay's 1-0 win over Italy after clashing with Italian defender Giorgio Chiellini. England bowed out of the World Cup with a goalless draw against Costa Rica.

**25** Defending Wimbledon men's singles champion Andy Murray eased into the third round of the event.

**26** FIFA announced Uruguay striker Luis Suarez would be suspended for nine international matches and banned from all football activity for four months for biting Italy defender Giorgio Chiellini.

**27** Manchester United confirmed the signing of Luke Shaw from Southampton on a four-year contract, the defender becoming the most expensive teenage footballer in history after moving for a fee understood to be £27million. Sir Bradley Wiggins, the 2012 champion, was omitted from the Team Sky squad for the Tour de France.

**28** Brazil squeezed through to the quarter-finals of the World Cup with a 3-2 win on penalties against Chile. Top seed Serena Williams crashed out of Wimbledon at the hands of Frenchwoman Alize Cornet in a tense three-set battle, while Rafael Nadal saw off Mikhail Kukushkin and Roger Federer eased into the second week without dropping a set with a win over Santiago Giraldo.

**29** Dwain Chambers won the 100 metres crown at the Sainsbury's British Championships in Birmingham.

**30** Andy Murray set up a Wimbledon quarter-final showdown against Grigor Dimitrov by beating South Africa's Kevin Anderson on Centre Court.

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# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

# JULY

**1** Liverpool completed the signing of England midfielder Adam Lallana from Southampton, while Chelsea reached an agreement to sign Spain striker Diego Costa from Atletico Madrid.

World number one Rafael Nadal was knocked out of Wimbledon in the fourth round by world number 144 Nick Kyrgios.

**2** Reigning Wimbledon champion Andy Murray was denied the opportunity to defend his title as Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov beat him into the semi-finals.

**3** Hull KR parted company with head coach Craig Sandercock and put assistant Chris Chester in charge ahead of the trip to St Helens.

**4** Novak Djokovic defeated Andy Murray's conqueror Grigor Dimitrov to reach his third Wimbledon final in four years as he edged a tense four-set battle, while Roger Federer beat Milos Raonic to reach his ninth Wimbledon showpiece.

**5** Petra Kvitova claimed her second Wimbledon title with a crushing 6-3 6-0 victory over Eugenie Bouchard that took just 55 minutes.

The Tour de France got under way in Yorkshire with Marcel Kittel winning stage one as Mark Cavendish suffered a late crash which forced his withdrawal before the next morning's stage began in York.

**6** Novak Djokovic beat Roger Federer to win the Wimbledon men's singles title. Lewis Hamilton won the British Grand Prix from sixth on the grid at Silverstone.

**7** Real Madrid great Alfredo Di Stefano died at the age of 88, two days after he was hospitalised following a cardiac arrest. Defender Ashley Cole signed a two-year contract with Roma following his release by Chelsea.

**8** Brazil's dreams of making a return to a World Cup final in the Maracana were shattered as Germany inflicted a 7-1 defeat on the hosts.

Southampton signed Serbian playmaker Dusan Tadic from Dutch side FC Twente.

**9** Chris Froome withdrew from the Tour de France after two further crashes on the feared stage five.

Argentina beat Holland 4-2 on penalties to reach the World Cup final.

**10** Chile forward Alexis Sanchez agreed to join Arsenal from Barcelona for an undisclosed fee.

**11** Liverpool and Barcelona agreed a fee for the sale of Luis Suarez.

Former England full-back and 2003 World Cup winner Iain Balshaw announced his retirement from professional rugby.

**12** Holland beat Brazil 3-0 in the third-place play-off at the World Cup.

England duo Joe Root (154 not out) and James Anderson (81) put on the highest 10th-wicket stand in Test history after sharing in a 198-run partnership in opening Test against India at Trent Bridge.

**13** Germany won the World Cup by beating Argentina 1-0 after extra-time in Rio de Janeiro.

England drew the first Test against India at Trent Bridge.

**14** Luis Felipe Scolari resigned as Brazil coach.

Jamaican sprinters Asafa Powell and Sherone Simpson had their doping bans reduced from 18 months to six months leaving them free to compete.

**15** Mike Tindall announced his retirement from professional rugby,



**VICTORY:** For Wimbledon winner Petra Kvitova



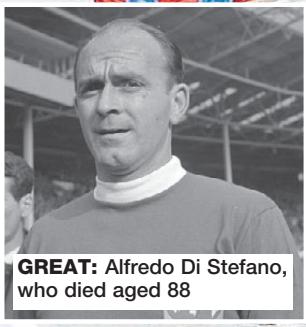
**DEFEAT:** For Andy Murray at Wimbledon



**MERSEYSIDE MOVE:** For Adam Lallana



**SIGNING:** Dusan Tadic



**GREAT:** Alfredo Di Stefano, who died aged 88



**RETIREMENT:** Mike Tindall

becoming the last member of England's 2003 World Cup winning side to hang up their boots.

**16** Nico Rosberg signed a "multi-year contract extension" with Mercedes. Manchester United manager Louis van Gaal arrived at the club's Carrington training ground to begin his new role.

**17** Former Manchester United and England captain Rio Ferdinand signed for QPR on a one-year deal.

**18** Chelsea completed the signing of left-back Filipe Luis from Atletico Madrid on a three-year deal.

Germany's World Cup-winning captain Philipp Lahm announced his retirement from international football, a decision he says was made before the tournament.

**19** Brake failure caused Lewis Hamilton to crash during the opening German Grand Prix qualifying session and he could only watch on as Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg secured pole.

**20** Rory McIlroy won the Open Championship at Royal Liverpool by two strokes.

Mercedes' Nico Rosberg won the German Grand Prix at Hockenheim. Bradford Bulls' relegation from the Super League was confirmed following a 52-26 defeat at Huddersfield.

**21** England and Liverpool captain Steven Gerrard announced he was retiring from international football after earning 114 caps over 14 years.

**22** Real Madrid agreed a deal to sign Colombia forward James Rodriguez from Monaco.

**23** The Commonwealth Games opened in Glasgow after a ceremony at Celtic Park that included performances by acts such as John Barrowman and Rod Stewart.

Formula One announced that it would return to Mexico for the first time in 23 years, with Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez set to be included on the 2015 calendar.

**24** Brothers Alastair and Jonny Brownlee finished first and second in the Commonwealth Games men's triathlon, following Jodie Stimpson's success in the women's event.

Mo Farah pulled out of the Commonwealth Games due to injury. Frank Lampard signed a two-year deal with MLS side New York City FC.

**25** Chelsea re-signed striker Didier Drogba on a one-year contract. European 400 metres hurdles champion Rhys Williams, the co-captain of Wales' Commonwealth Games athletics squad, was thrown out of the Games after failing a drug test.

Scottish Swimmer Daniel Wallace and English cyclist Joanna Rowsell led the home nations medalists on day two of the Games, winning gold in the individual medley and individual pursuit respectively.

**26** It was a night of double Glasgow gold for England at the Tollcross Swimming Centre as Adam Peaty came home first in the 100 metres breaststroke title in a Games record of 58.94 seconds. Peaty's triumph followed success for Fran Halsall in the 50m freestyle and took England's gold medal tally in the pool to four.

**27** Daniel Ricciardo (Red Bull) won the Hungarian Grand Prix with Fernando Alonso (Ferrari) second and Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes) third. Italian Vincenzo Nibali won the 101st Tour de France to become the sixth rider in history to win all three Grand Tours.

**28** England's Adam Gemili produced the run of his life to claim the silver medal in the men's 100 metres final at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Aimee Willmott won silver in the 200m butterfly and Adam Peaty silver in the 50m breaststroke, while Adam Barrett rounded out the English medalists in the pool with bronze in the 100m butterfly.

Arsenal signed 19-year-old full-back Calum Chambers from Southampton for an undisclosed fee..

**29** David Luckman won shooting gold for England in the Queen's Prize individual event at the Commonwealth Games and Daniel Rivers also won gold in the men's 50 metres rifle three positions. England's won both the men's and women's team golds in the artistic gymnastics. In the pool, England's Ben Proud won gold in the men's 50m freestyle and England also won the men's 4 x 100m medley relay.

**30** Everton signed striker Romelu Lukaku from Chelsea for a club-record £28million. England's Max Whitlock and Claudia Fragapane both won individual all-around gymnastics gold at the Commonwealth Games.

**31** Moeen Ali and James Anderson led England's surge to a series-levelling 266-run victory with more than two sessions to spare in the third Investec Test against India at the Ageas Bowl.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** England fast bowler James Anderson was cleared of any wrong-doing in his spat with India's Ravindra Jadeja during the Trent Bridge Test. England's Claudia Fragapane won her fourth gold of the Commonwealth Games after she claimed the individual floor title. A stunning round of 61 gave Sergio Garcia a three-shot lead over Ryder Cup teammate Justin Rose at the halfway stage of the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational.

**2** Manchester City boss Manuel Pellegrini confirmed that Frank Lampard would be joining the club on loan from sister-club New York City FC. Usain Bolt won his first Commonwealth gold as he anchored home the Jamaican men's 4x100 metre relay team.

**3** Lizzie Armitstead of England and Wales' Geraint Thomas won gold in the cycling road races on the final day of the Commonwealth Games as England finished top of the medals table. A back injury forced Tiger Woods to withdraw from the final round of the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational which was won by Rory McIlroy.

**4** Former European light-middleweight champion Jamie Moore was recovering in hospital after being shot twice in the legs in Marbella.

**5** Spain midfielder Xavi announced his retirement from international football after 133 caps.

The bribery case against Bernie Ecclestone was dropped after the Formula One supremo reached a £60million settlement.

**6** Celtic lost their Champions League third qualifying round tie against Legia Warsaw 6-1 on aggregate. Howard Webb retired as a match referee and was appointed technical director of the Professional Game Match Officials Limited.

**7** England's Stuart Broad took six for 25 as India were bowled out for 152 on day one of the fourth Investec Test.

**8** Celtic were reinstated in the Champions League by UEFA after being awarded a default 3-0 second-leg win over Legia Warsaw, who fielded an ineligible player.

**9** England defeated India by an innings and 54 runs in the fourth Investec Test at Old Trafford to go 2-1 up. Southampton confirmed the signing of England goalkeeper Fraser Forster from Celtic on a four-year deal.

**10** Rory McIlroy won the US PGA Championship at Valhalla. Arsenal beat Manchester City 3-0 in the Community Shield at Wembley with goals from Santi Cazorla, Aaron Ramsey, and Olivier Giroud.

**11** Manchester City signed defender Eliaquim Mangala from Porto for £32million. Germany's all-time leading goalscorer, Miroslav Klose, announced his retirement from international football.

**12** Jo Pavey won gold for Great Britain in the women's 10,000 metres at the European Championships in Zurich. Gareth Bale helped Real Madrid to a 2-0 win over Sevilla in the UEFA Super Cup in Cardiff.

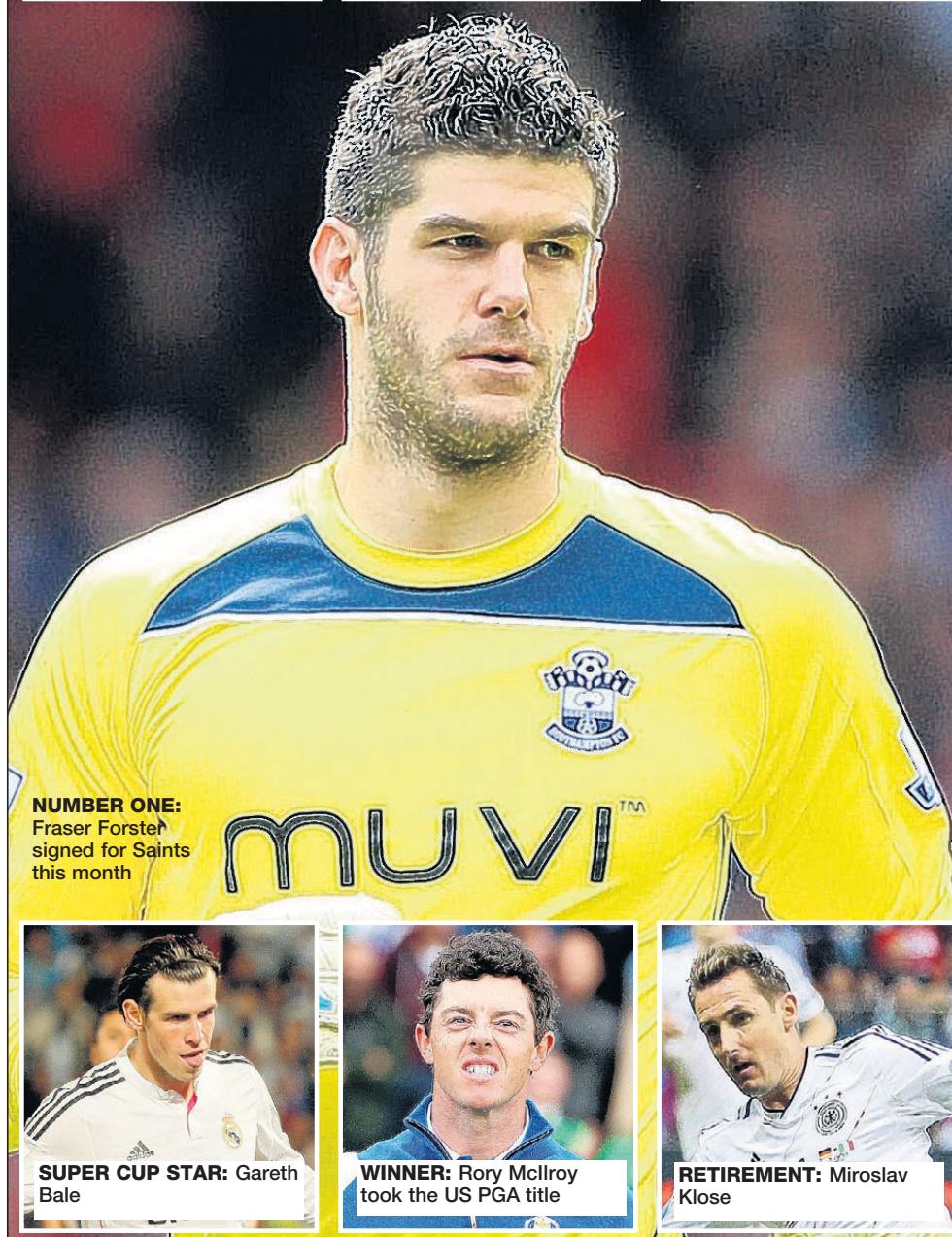
**13** Tiger Woods confirmed he would miss September's Ryder Cup at Gleneagles after withdrawing himself from consideration to be selected.



MEDAL: Usain Bolt

RECORD: Adam Peaty

SPAIN RETIREMENT: Xavi

NUMBER ONE:  
Fraser Forster  
signed for Saints  
this monthSUPER CUP STAR: Gareth  
BaleWINNER: Rory McIlroy  
took the US PGA titleRETIREMENT: Miroslav  
Klose

James Dasaolu won 100 metres gold for Great Britain at the European Championships, with Harry Aikines-Aryeetey earning bronze. Mo Farah topped the podium in the 10,000 metres ahead of team-mate Andy Vernon, while Tiffany Porter took the 100m hurdles title.

**14** Manager Tony Pulis left his position at Crystal Palace in a sudden and unexpected move. Barcelona striker Luis Suarez failed in his

appeal to have a four-month playing ban overturned.

**15** England bowled India out for 148 on the first day of the fifth Test at the Oval before closing on 62 without loss. Adam Gemill won the 200 metres title at the European Championships, the second sub-20 seconds run of his life, while Martyn Rooney led home a UK one-two in the 400 metres to win gold ahead of teenager Matthew Hudson-Smith.

Arsenal defender Per Mertesacker became the third member of Germany's World Cup-winning team to retire from international football.

**16** Manchester United lost their opening game on Louis van Gaal's Premier League debut, going down 2-1 at home to Swansea. Eilidh Child won gold for Great Britain in the 400 metres hurdles at the European Championships in Zurich.

# AUGUST

**17** England inflicted a second consecutive three-day defeat on India to seal the Investec Test series 3-1. Mo Farah and Greg Rutherford starred as Great Britain ended a record-breaking European Championships with a flourish, topping the medal table after winning five golds on the last day.

**18** James Alexander Gordon, the voice of the football results on Sports Report, died at the age of 78.

**19** Great Britain broke the world record in the mixed 4x100m medley by 2.5 seconds as they claimed three gold medals in one day at the European Swimming Championships in Berlin.

**20** Barcelona announced they would appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport after FIFA upheld their transfer embargo until January 2016.

**21** It was revealed Cardiff had sent a dossier to the Football Association detailing a number of issues related to Malky Mackay and Iain Moody's time at the club. England's women beat Wales 4-0 in Cardiff to secure their place at the 2015 World Cup in Canada.

**22** Great Britain's Adam Peaty set a new 50m breaststroke world record in his semi-final at the European Championships in Berlin.

**23** Birmingham Bears won the Natwest t20 Blast after beating Lancashire by four runs in the final at Edgbaston. Leeds won the Tetley's Challenge Cup final at Wembley, beating Castleford 23-10.

**24** Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo clinched his third victory of the season, but the real story of the Belgian Grand Prix focused on the fall-out from the first major collision between Mercedes team-mates Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg.

**25** Liverpool sealed one of the shock signings of the summer after confirming Mario Balotelli's arrival from AC Milan in a reported £16million deal.

**26** Manchester United smashed the British transfer record as they signed Angel di Maria from Real Madrid for £59.7million but it wasn't all good news for the Old Trafford outfit as they were sensationally dumped out of the Capital One Cup by League One MK Dons.

**27** England descended to a miserable 133-run defeat against India in Cardiff to concede a 1-0 Royal London Series lead.

**28** England manager Roy Hodgson announced Wayne Rooney would become the side's new captain. Leeds sacked manager David Hockaday after six games in charge.

**29** Chelsea announced that they had agreed terms with AC Milan for the two-year loan deal of Fernando Torres, subject to the striker passing a medical and agreeing personal terms.

**30** Andy Murray did enough to defeat Andrey Kuznetsov and reach the fourth round of the US Open. England took the fast track to a six-wicket defeat in the third Royal London Series match against India at Trent Bridge.

**31** Surrey's Jason Roy was named in a 14-man squad for England's one-off NatWest Twenty20 international against India at Edgbaston.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** Manchester United made a deadline-day move for Radamel Falcao. Arsenal signed Danny Welbeck from Manchester United for £16 million.

**2** England were thrashed by India by nine wickets in the fourth one-day international between the sides. Lee Westwood, Ian Poulter and Stephen Gallacher were named as Europe's Ryder Cup wildcards. Hunter Mahan, Keegan Bradley and Webb Simpson were the USA ones.

**3** England beat Norway 1-0 with a Wayne Rooney penalty. Yorkshire beat Lancashire to go 26 points clear in the County Championship but captain Andrew Gale was suspended for two matches, ruling him out of the rest of the season.

**4** Andy Murray made a weary exit from the US Open at the quarter-final stage as Novak Djokovic pulled off a victory to reach the last four. World boxing champion Kell Brook was taken to hospital in Tenerife after being stabbed in the leg while on holiday.

**5** Joe Root's century helped England beat India by 41 runs in the fifth Royal London one-day international at Headingley as they lost the series 3-1. Great friends Serena Williams and Caroline Wozniacki progressed through their respective semi-finals to reach the US Open final.

**6** Japan's Kei Nishikori and Croatian Marin Cilic caused huge US Open upsets by beating Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer respectively in the semi-finals at Flushing Meadows. Northern Ireland's Carl Frampton landed the IBF super-bantamweight title in front of 16,000 fans in Belfast by scoring a resounding points win against defending champion Kiko Martinez.

**7** Lewis Hamilton won the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, capitalising on a mistake from his Mercedes team-mate Nico Rosberg. Serena Williams beat Caroline Wozniacki to win the US Open.

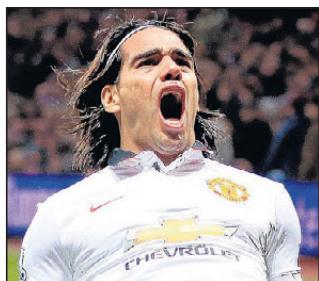
**8** England opened their Euro 2016 qualifying campaign with a 2-0 win away to Switzerland. Danny Welbeck with both goals. Elsewhere in Group E, Slovenia were surprisingly beaten by Estonia. Croatia's Marin Cilic beat Japan's Kei Nishikori to win the US Open and land his first grand slam crown.

**9** Saeed Ajmal was suspended from bowling for Pakistan after the International Cricket Council ruled his action was illegal.

**10** Manchester United's financial reports revealed annual revenue of £433.2million and a £23.9million profit, as well as a £5.2million compensation payment to David Moyes and his coaching team and a projected top-three finish in the Premier League.

**11** Hull owner Assem Allam revealed that the club had been up for sale for five months. Moene Ali, Gary Ballance, Jos Buttler, Chris Jordan, Ben Stokes and Chris Woakes were awarded an England and Wales Cricket Board central contract for the first time.

**12** Oscar Pistorius was found guilty of the manslaughter of girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp by a judge in South Africa. Pistorius had been cleared the previous day of pre-meditated murder and second-degree murder by Judge Thokozile. Yorkshire won the County Championship after beating Nottinghamshire.



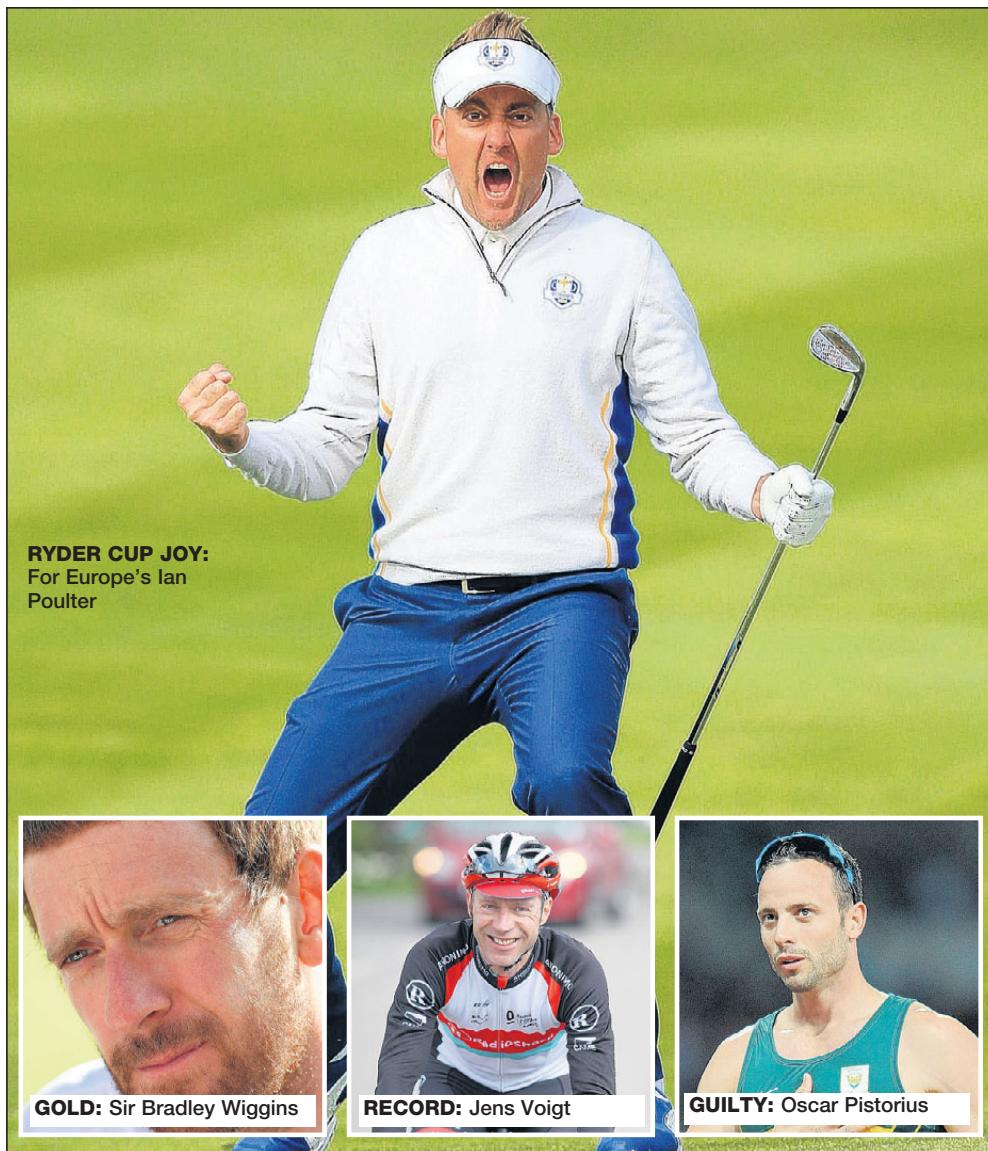
**DEADLINE DAY MOVE:**  
Radamel Falcao



**STABBED:** Kell Brook was hospitalised on holiday



**US OPEN FINALIST:** Caroline Wozniacki



**RYDER CUP JOY:**  
For Europe's Ian Poulter



**GOLD:** Sir Bradley Wiggins

**RECORD:** Jens Voigt

**18** The Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews voted "overwhelmingly" in favour of welcoming women members.

German cyclist Jens Voigt broke the prestigious hour record – before immediately retiring from the sport. Voigt covered 51.115 kilometres in 60 minutes, beating Andrej Sosken's record of 49.700km.

**19** Wembley was chosen to host the final and semi-finals of Euro 2020. UEFA confirmed disciplinary proceedings against Partizan Belgrade over the anti-Semitic banner displayed by their fans during the Europa League tie against Tottenham.

**13** Diego Costa hit a hat-trick as leaders Chelsea came from behind to extend their 100 per cent start to the Barclays Premier League season with a 4-2 win over Swansea at Stamford Bridge.

St Helens won the Super League leaders' shield after Castleford suffered a 28-6 defeat at Catalan Dragons.

**14** Floyd Mayweather Jnr extended his record to 48-0 with a victory over Marcos Maidana.

**15** Frenchman Jerome Champagne confirmed he would run against Sepp Blatter for the FIFA presidency.

**16** Arsenal slumped to a disappointing 2-0 defeat to Borussia Dortmund. Liverpool beat Ludogorets 2-1 as they returned to the Champions League. It was announced that Misbah-ul-Haq would captain Pakistan at the World Cup, and Shahid Afridi at the 2016 ICC World Twenty20.

**17** Newcastle winger Jonas Gutierrez revealed he was having treatment for testicular cancer.

# SEPTEMBER

**20** Durham beat Warwickshire by three wickets in the Royal London One-Day Cup final at Lord's. George Groves made a winning return to action in his first fight since losing to Carl Froch in May by outpointing Frenchman Christopher Rebrasse at Wembley Arena.

**21** Police launched an investigation after Liverpool striker Mario Balotelli was subjected to racist abuse on Twitter.

**22** Qatar World Cup chiefs said there was no possibility of the 2022 tournament being moved after Germany's FIFA member, Theo Zwanziger, said he believed the Middle East country would lose the right to host the tournament due to the extreme temperatures and the threat of legal action.

**23** Liverpool had to come through an epic 14-13 penalty shoot-out to get the better of Sky Bet Championship side Middlesbrough at Anfield and book their place in the fourth round of the Capital One Cup, while Southampton saw off Arsenal 2-1.

**24** Sir Bradley Wiggins won gold in the men's time-trial at the Road World Championships in Spain in a time of 56 minutes 25.52 seconds for the 47.1-kilometre route in Ponferrada to win by an emphatic margin of 26.23secs.

**25** Rory McIlroy was paired with Sergio Garcia to take on Phil Mickelson and Keegan Bradley on the opening morning of the Ryder Cup. Liverpool were named as one of seven clubs under investigation by UEFA for potential breaches of financial fair play (FFP) regulations.

**26** Europe took a 5-3 lead after the first two sessions of the 40th Ryder Cup, despite their star trio of Rory McIlroy, Sergio Garcia and Ian Poulter contributing just half a point.

Lancashire were relegated from Division One of the LV= County Championship after they drew against Middlesex.

**27** Europe won three and a half points in Saturday's afternoon session to take a 10-6 lead into the final day of the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles, with US captain Tom Watson opting not to use Phil Mickelson at all.

**28** Europe retained the Ryder Cup against the United States after winning 16.5 points to 11.5 at Gleneagles. Andy Murray won his first tournament since Wimbledon in 2013 with a 5-7 7-6 (11/9) 6-1 victory over Tommy Robredo in the Shenzhen Open final. Kenyan Dennis Kimetto broke the marathon world record in Berlin after completing the race in a time of two hours, two minutes and 57 seconds.

**29** The pressure on Newcastle manager Alan Pardew cranked up as his side were beaten 1-0 by Stoke at a rain-drenched Britannia Stadium. Phil Mickelson was strongly criticised for openly questioning the captaincy of Tom Watson, just two hours after the United States lost the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles.

**30** Chelsea beat Sporting Lisbon away in the Champions League while Manchester City drew 1-1 at home to Roma.

England's injury problems continued to escalate after prop Alex Corbisiero and second row Geoff Parling were ruled out of the autumn series.

Somerset appointed Matthew Maynard as their new director of cricket.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** England head coach Stuart Lancaster extended his contract with the Rugby Football Union until 2020.

**2** Southampton defender Nathaniel Clyne and Swansea midfielder Jonjo Shelvey were named in the England squad for the Euro 2016 qualifiers against San Marino and Estonia.

**3** Russian club CSKA Moscow were ordered to play their next three home European matches behind closed doors - including against Manchester City in the Champions League on October 21 - as punishment for racist behaviour by fans.

**4** Yaya Toure sent a message to his critics as he and Sergio Aguero struck late to secure a 2-0 win for Manchester City at Aston Villa and keep the pressure on Premier League leaders Chelsea.

**5** Marussia driver Jules Bianchi was left unconscious after a crash at the Japanese Grand Prix and later underwent head surgery following a rain-affected race which was won by Lewis Hamilton. Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger shoved Jose Mourinho as their long-running feud turned physical in a 2-0 win which saw Chelsea take a five-point lead at the top of the Barclays Premier League.

Wigan Warriors loose forward Sean O'Loughlin was appointed England captain ahead of the 2014 Four Nations Series by England head coach Steve McNamara.

**6** Kevin Pietersen questioned Alastair Cook's credentials to be England captain and voiced his dismay at a "bullying" culture he believes has long undermined the national team.

**7** The fallout from Kevin Pietersen's autobiography revelations rumbled on, with the former England batsman's alleged misdemeanours during last winter's Ashes emerging via a leaked document. In a series of interviews to plug his book, Pietersen insisted revelations of bullying in the England dressing room were his way of defending himself at last after years of "character assassination".

**8** Former England captain Alec Stewart said he reported to the England and Wales Cricket Board that he had been told Tim Bresnan, Stuart Broad and Graeme Swann all had access to a parody Kevin Pietersen Twitter account.

**9** England beat San Marino 5-0 in a European Championship qualifier as Wayne Rooney edged one goal closer to Sir Bobby Charlton's record. Andy Schleck, the 2010 Tour de France champion, announced his retirement from cycling at the age of 29.

**10** The Football Association's England Commission announced the findings of the second part of its report into the problems facing English football with FA chairman Greg Dyke admitting his plan to introduce B teams into the Football League was unlikely to come to fruition.

**11** St Helens beat Wigan 14-6 in the Super League Grand Final at Old Trafford after the early dismissal of Wigan's Ben Flower for punching Lance Hohaia in the second minute of the match. Alastair Cook gave his response to the controversy surrounding Kevin Pietersen, saying the former England batsman's autobiography had 'tarnished' an era of success for the team.

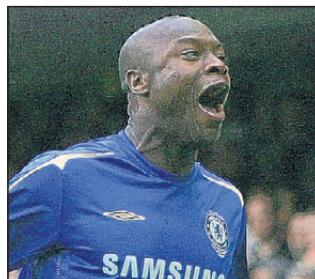
**12** England beat Estonia 1-0 in Euro 2016 qualifying thanks to Wayne Rooney's second-half free-kick. Lewis Hamilton won the Russian Grand



CONTRACT: Stuart Lancaster



NEW DEAL: Steven Davis



RETIRED: William Gallas

## BOOK REVELATIONS:

Kevin Pietersen



CRASH: Jules Bianchi



CHAIRMAN: Greg Dyke



CRITIC: Michael Garcia

Prix to move 17 points clear in the Formula One drivers' championship. He dedicated the win to Bianchi, fighting for his life after the previous week's accident.

**13** FIFA's chief ethics investigator Michael Garcia criticised the culture of secrecy at the world governing body and called for greater transparency and leadership in the organisation.

**14** Serbia's Euro 2016 qualifier against Albania was abandoned on Tuesday evening after a drone flown over the Partizan Stadium pitch carrying a pro-Albanian banner led to a clash between

Ferrari's recently-departed president Luca Di Montezemolo indicated Fernando Alonso would be leaving the team at the end of the Formula One season.

**16** Former Arsenal, Chelsea and Tottenham defender William Gallas retired from football at the age of 37.

**17** The West Indies' tour of India appeared to be over following a day of confusion in Dharamsala after it was revealed the tourists were calling short their

trip due to a dispute over player payments. Midfielder Steven Davis signed a new deal with Barclays Premier League side Southampton.

**18** Southampton continued their fine start to the Barclays Premier League season by thrashing Sunderland 8-0.

**19** Andy Murray claimed victory over David Ferrer in the final of the Erste Open in Vienna.

**20** Lee Clark was sacked from his role as Birmingham manager with the

# OCTOBER

Blues hovering just above the Sky Bet Championship relegation zone.

**21** South African athlete Oscar Pistorius was jailed for five years for shooting his girlfriend Reeva Steenkamp dead on Valentine's Day 2013. Didier Drogba scored his first Chelsea goal since his decisive strike in the 2012 final as the Premier League leaders thrashed Maribor 6-0 at Stamford Bridge.

**22** Cristiano Ronaldo scored his first Anfield goal as Real Madrid beat Liverpool 3-0 in their Champions League clash, while substitute Lukas Podolski struck in stoppage time as two goals in the final two minutes secured Arsenal a dramatic 2-1 win over Anderlecht in Brussels.

England head coach Stuart Lancaster confirmed Chris Robshaw would remain captain and included uncapped Bath winger Semesa Rokoduguni in his squad for November's QBE Internationals. Chris Froome indicated he was considering opting out of the 2015 Tour de France and targeting a Giro d'Italia-Vuelta a Espana double instead.

**23** Everton fans in Lille were caught up in trouble in the build-up to their Europa League goalless draw, with gas being used against them by French police. Harry Kane spent a spell in goal and scored a hat-trick and Erik Lamela scored a stunner as Tottenham beat Asteras Tripoli 5-1.

**24** World number three Rafael Nadal announced the end of his season to undergo appendix surgery.

**25** West Ham beat champions Man City 2-1 in the Barclays Premier League while Southampton moved up to second with a 1-0 win over Stoke. Andy Murray gave his hopes of qualifying for the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals in London an almighty boost with a high-calibre 6-4 7-5 win over David Ferrer to reach the final of Valencia Open.

**27** Marussia followed fellow Formula One team Caterham in being placed in administration. QPR beat Aston Villa 2-0 with two goals from Charlie Austin to move off the bottom of the Premier League table.

**28** Jonathan Trott was named in the England Lions squad to face South Africa in January, his first international involvement since leaving the Ashes tour due to an anxiety problem.

**29** Newcastle claimed a surprise 2-0 victory at Manchester City to eliminate the Capital One Cup holders, Southampton won 3-2 at Stoke, while Tottenham beat Brighton 2-0. QPR defender Rio Ferdinand was suspended for three matches and fined £25,000 for comments he made on Twitter.

Fulham's caretaker manager Kit Symons was handed the position on a permanent basis.

**30** Celtic winger Aleksandar Tonev was suspended for seven matches for using "offensive, insulting and abusive language of a racist nature" following an incident involving Aberdeen defender Shay Logan on September 13.

**31** Andy Murray was defeated at the quarter-final stage of the BNP Paribas Masters by Novak Djokovic, 7-5 6-2.

A man was charged in relation to the murder of South Africa captain Senzo Meyiwa, who was shot dead.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** Lotus, Force India and Sauber threatened to boycott the following day's United States Grand Prix in protest at the financial troubles in the sport which had already forced Caterham and Marussia into administration.

**2** Lewis Hamilton won the United States Grand Prix and claimed the 32nd Formula One victory of his career, making him the most successful Briton in F1 in terms of race wins.

**3** Newcastle winger Jonas Gutierrez was given the all-clear from cancer. FIFA announced that two options in the winter had emerged as the most likely dates for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar after its medical chief warned that temperatures between May and September posed a "highly critical" risk.

**4** James Anderson was ruled out of England's one-day international series with Sri Lanka due to a knee injury. European 10,000 metres champion Jo Pavey, who was left off British Athletics' list for top-level funding list, said it was another hurdle to overcome.

**5** Caterham and Marussia were included on a provisional list of entrants for the 2015 Formula One season despite both teams being in administration.

**6** West Brom's Saido Berahino was included in England's squad to face Slovenia and Scotland. Fijian wing Semesa Rokoduguni, a lance corporal with the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, was named in the England team to face New Zealand.

**7** Marussia officially went out of business, with the loss of more than 200 jobs, while Caterham launched a crowd-funding project in a bid to raise the £2.35million needed to get the team on the grid for the final Formula One race of the season in Abu Dhabi. Olympic champion Dani King suffered five broken ribs and a punctured lung following a freak training accident.

**8** In rugby union, England lost 24-21 to New Zealand at Twickenham in their autumn international. In rugby league, New Zealand beat England 16-14 in their Four Nations Series meeting in Dunedin.

**9** Nico Rosberg ended Lewis Hamilton's five-race winning streak to take the chequered flag at the Brazilian Grand Prix and set up a double-points showdown in the season-ending race in Abu Dhabi.

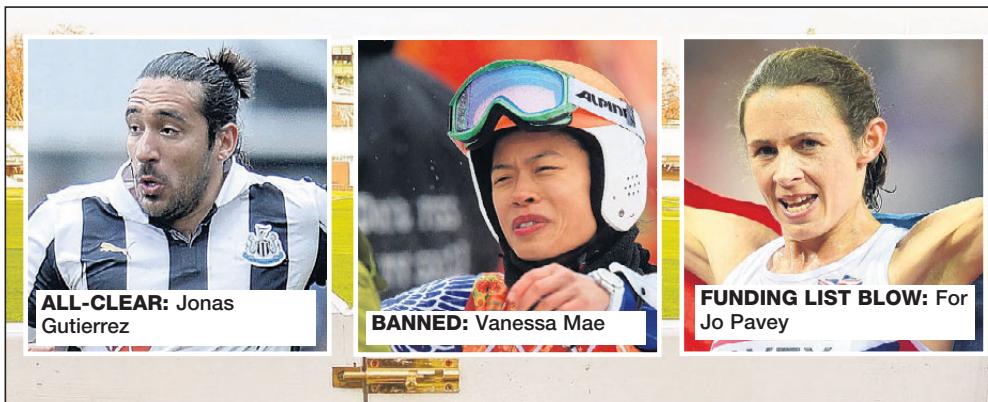
**10** David Moyes was named as the new coach of Real Sociedad on a one-and-a-half year deal.

**11** Sheffield United reveal they will allow convicted rapist Ched Evans to start training with them following a request from the PFA.

Morocco was stripped of hosting the African Nations Cup and banned from the competition after it requested a postponement of the tournament due to fears over the Ebola outbreak.

Vanessa Mae was handed a four-year ban by the International Ski Federation for taking part in races which were fixed to help her qualify for the 2014 Winter Olympics.

**12** Nick Clegg, the deputy prime minister and a Sheffield MP, said Sheffield United should "think really long and hard" before deciding whether to allow Ched Evans to play for them again, while television presenter Charlie Webster resigned as a patron of the Blades after the decision to allow Evans to train with the League One club. Swedish driver Marcus Ericsson



**TRIBUTE:** A cricket bat and cap at Lord's Cricket Ground in memory of the Australian cricketer Phillip Hughes (inset), who died at the age of 25



**CONTROVERSY:** Ched Evans announced his departure from troubled Formula One team Caterham.

**13** FIFA's probe into World Cup bidding, which cleared Qatar but criticised England, was published. The findings were challenged by the chief investigator, US lawyer Michael Garcia. Football Association chairman Greg Dyke also described the report as "a joke". Andy Murray was dumped out of the Barclays ATP World Tour finals in London after a convincing 6-0 6-1 defeat at the hands of Roger Federer.

**NEW JOB:** Malky Mackay

**14** Police confirmed they were investigating tweets directed at Jessica Ennis-Hill after the Olympic gold medallist said Sheffield United should not re-sign Ched Evans.

FIFA announced that the chairman of the investigatory chamber of the FIFA Ethics Committee, Michael Garcia, would appeal to the FIFA Appeal Committee about the decision to clear Qatar and Russia to host the 2022 and 2018 World Cups.

**15** Wayne Rooney marked his 100th England appearance with a penalty

equaliser as the Three Lions battle back to beat Slovenia 3-1 in their Euro 2016 qualifier at Wembley. Danny Welbeck scored the other two goals.

**16** Roger Federer withdrew from the ATP Tour final in London because of injury, handing victory to Novak Djokovic.

**17** Football Association chairman Greg Dyke wrote to every FIFA executive committee member calling for "urgent action" to ensure ethics investigator Michael Garcia's report into World Cup

# NOVEMBER

bidding is published in full.

**18** A second-half brace from Wayne Rooney silenced the ferocious home supporters inside Celtic Park as England eased to a 3-1 friendly victory over Scotland in the Battle of Britain. FIFA president Sepp Blatter insisted the investigation into 2018 and 2022 World Cup bidding would not be reopened.

**19** The family of injured Formula One driver Jules Bianchi announced the Frenchman had been brought out of an artificial coma but remained unconscious and in a critical condition. Malky Mackay returned to football after Sky Bet Championship strugglers Wigan confirmed the Scot as their new manager.

**20** Sheffield United retracted their offer for Ched Evans to train with them. Four-time Formula One champion Sebastian Vettel signed a three-year deal with Ferrari with the team, confirming the exit of Fernando Alonso.

**21** Wigan chairman Dave Whelan was labelled a "racist" by his Cardiff counterpart Vincent Tan after comments he made regarding the Chinese and Jewish communities.

**22** England ended a five-match losing run by defeating Samoa 28-9 at Twickenham.

**23** Lewis Hamilton claimed his second Formula One world championship with victory at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

**24** Marco Mattiacci was axed as Ferrari team principal after just seven months in the job and replaced by Maurizio Arrivabene.

**25** Australia batsman Phillip Hughes was in intensive care and on life support in an induced coma after being struck on the head by a bouncer in a Sheffield Shield match. Lionel Messi became the all-time leading goalscorer in the Champions League with a hat-trick against APOEL moving him past Raul's tally of 71.

**26** Moeen Ali's maiden one-day international hundred, the third-fastest in England's history, was in vain in a 25-run defeat against Sri Lanka at the Premadasa Stadium.

Andy Murray made more changes to his coaching team, dispensing with long-time friend Dani Vallverdu and fitness trainer Jez Green, but also announced his engagement to long-term girlfriend Kim Sears

**27** Australia batsman Phillip Hughes died at the age of 25, two days after being struck on the head by a bouncer. He never regained consciousness following the incident, with tributes subsequently pouring in from cricketers and sports stars across the globe.

**28** Roy Keane quit as assistant manager of Aston Villa stating that "Ultimately, my roles with Villa and Ireland and combining my commitment to these have become too much."

**29** England ended a frustrating autumn with a 26-17 victory over Australia at Twickenham.

Australia captain Michael Clarke announced that Phillip Hughes' one-day international shirt number of 64 would be retired.

**30** Tyson Fury beat Dereck Chisora by 10th-round stoppage to become the new European and British heavyweight champion in a one-sided contest at London's ExCel Arena.

# SPORTS REVIEW OF THE YEAR

**1** Leeds owner Massimo Cellino was disqualified under the Football League's Owners' and Directors' Test. Caterham were given dispensation to compete in the Formula One World Championship next year with this year's car should a buyer be found for the team.

**2** Ronnie O'Sullivan beat Ben Woollaston 6-2 to reach the quarter-finals of snooker's UK Championship.

**3** The world of cricket bade an emotional goodbye to Phillip Hughes as around 5,000 mourners gathered to remember the former Test batsman at his funeral in his home town of Macksville in New South Wales.

England beat Sri Lanka by five wickets under the Duckworth-Lewis method in the third one-day international in Hambantota to trail 2-1 in their seven-match series. The World Motor Sport Council announced double points would no longer apply to the final grand prix of a Formula One season.

**4** Ronnie O'Sullivan finished off with a brilliant 147 break as he stormed into the quarter-finals of the Coral UK Championship.

Brad Friedel rejected a claim from fellow American goalkeeper Tim Howard in the Everton goalkeeper's book that he attempted to block his move to Manchester United in 2003.

**5** Liverpool striker Mario Balotelli was charged by the Football Association following alleged racist and anti-semitic comments he posted on social media. UEFA announced that Hull were under investigation for possible breaches of financial fair play (FFP) rules.

Great Britain won gold in the men's and women's team pursuit at the World Championships.

**6** Chelsea suffered their first Premier League defeat of the season as they went down 2-1 at Newcastle, while Stoke beat Arsenal 3-2 at the Britannia Stadium. England confirmed Alastair Cook as captain in their 30-man provisional squad for next year's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

**7** Ronnie O'Sullivan fended off a dramatic Judd Trump comeback to win the Coral UK Championship. A 10-9 victory gave 39-year-old O'Sullivan, who came to the tournament at York's Barbican Centre with a broken ankle, his fifth UK title - but he was made to sweat after leading 9-4.

**8** Robin van Persie's brace helped Manchester United secure a 2-1 win over Southampton at St Mary's, despite the fact his side only had three shots all game.

**9** Tommy Craig left his post as St Mirren manager by mutual consent, the club announced.

**10** Chris Woakes took six wickets before rain intervened at the Pallekele International Stadium, meaning England needed 240 more runs to win the fifth one-day international against Sri Lanka to stay in the series.

**11** McLaren confirmed that Jenson Button will drive for them during the 2015 season, ending weeks of speculation that the Briton could leave the team. Joe Root scored an unbeaten century as England returned on the reserve day after Wednesday's washout to win the fifth one-day international against Sri Lanka in Pallekele by five wickets.

**12** Rangers refused to comment on reports that Ally McCoist had



**SPORTS PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR:** Lewis Hamilton won the BBC prize



**BANNED:** Mario Balotelli



**HOSPITAL STAY:** Muhammad Ali



**GARDENING LEAVE:** Ally McCoist

offered his resignation as manager. England officially added Kent wicketkeeper Sam Billings to their provisional World Cup squad, in place of Craig Kieswetter. Bath marked Sam Burgess' full rugby union debut by keeping alive their European Champions Cup quarter-final hopes with a 32-12 victory over Castres at the Recreation Ground.

**13** England lost the sixth one-day international to Sri Lanka by 90 runs in Pallekele, thereby losing the series.

**14** Formula One world champion Lewis Hamilton won the 2014 BBC Sports Personality of the Year award, with golfer Rory McIlroy second and athlete Jo Pavey third.

Wasps said farewell to Adams Park with a bonus-point 44-17 Champions Cup victory over Castres.

**15** Ally McCoist resigned as Rangers manager and entered a 12-month notice period on the same day the club and Mike Ashley were accused of breach-

ing several Scottish Football Association rules relating to the shareholder's dual interest in the Light Blues and Newcastle. Wigan chairman Dave Whelan accepted a Football Association misconduct charge over comments he made regarding Jewish and Chinese people and requested a non-personal hearing.

**16** Sheffield United shocked Southampton 1-0 to reach the semi-finals of the Capital One Cup thanks to Marc McNulty's strike. Chelsea also

# DECEMBER

progressed after they won 3-1 at Derby. England lost the seventh and final one-day international against Sri Lanka by 87 runs, losing the series 5-2.

The appeal lodged by ethics committee investigatory chamber chairman Michael Garcia against the findings of adjudicatory chamber chairman Hans-Joachim Eckert was declared inadmissible.

**17** US lawyer Michael Garcia resigned as FIFA's independent ethics investigator after losing his appeal challenging the findings to clear Russia and Qatar to host the 2018 and 2022 World Cups.

Rangers announced Ally McCoist would continue as manager for the time being following his first meeting with the club's directors in Glasgow since his resignation. Liverpool reached the semi-finals of the Capital One Cup – and a meeting against Chelsea – with a 3-1 win over Bournemouth in which Raheem Sterling scored twice for the Reds. Tottenham also progressed after beating Newcastle 4-0.

**18** Liverpool striker Mario Balotelli was banned for one match, fined £25,000 and ordered to attend an education course after making racist and anti-semitic comments on social media.

England second row Joe Launchbury looked set to miss the RBS 6 Nations campaign after Wasps announced he faced up to four months out of action following neck surgery.

New Zealand star Dan Carter announced he would join wealthy French club Racing Metro at the end of 2015 on a three-year contract in a deal said to be worth £1million per year.

**19** FIFA's executive committee agreed unanimously to publish Michael Garcia's report into World Cup bidding, where legally possible, but president Sepp Blatter ruled out revisiting the vote for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups following a report by "independent, external legal experts".

Manchester City goalkeeper Joe Hart signed a new contract which commits him to the club until the end of the 2018/19 season.

**20** Eoin Morgan replaced Alastair Cook as England's one-day international captain with immediate effect, the England and Wales Cricket Board announced. David Silva struck twice as Manchester City moved level on points with Chelsea at the top of the Barclays Premier League with a 3-0 victory over Crystal Palace at the Etihad Stadium.

Radamel Falcao clinched a 1-1 draw for Manchester United as 10-man Aston Villa ended their six-game winning streak thanks to Christian Benteke's beautiful opener.

**21** Ally McCoist's three-and-a-half year reign as Rangers boss finally came to an end after the club confirmed he was put on gardening leave.

Liverpool dug deep into their reserves of resilience as Martin Skrtel scored an equaliser deep into stoppage time in a 2-2 draw against Arsenal at Anfield, while Adam Johnson condemned Newcastle to a fourth-successive derby defeat for the first time in their history as Sunderland snatched a dramatic last-gasp 1-0 victory at St James' Park.

Muhammad Ali was admitted to hospital with a mild case of pneumonia. The 72-year-old, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, was taken to an undisclosed location on Saturday morning, but was expected to be released in a few days.

**22** Chelsea made sure they would spend Christmas three points clear at the top of the Barclays Premier League after a 2-0 win at Stoke.



# Saints Spotlight

## SAINTS' FIRST TEAM FIXTURES AND RESULTS 2014/15

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>AUGUST</b>														
Sat 17 Liverpool .....	A	L 1-2	Forster	Clyne 1	Fonte	Yoshida	Bertrand	Schneiderlin	Tadic*	S Davis**	Pelle	Long*	Isgrove**	
Sat 23 West Brom .....	H	D 0-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Yoshida	Bertrand	Schneiderlin	Tadic	S Davis**	Pelle	Long*	Cork**	
Tues 26 Millwall (LC 2) .....	A	W 2-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Yoshida	Targett	S Schneiderlin	Isgrove*	W-Prowse**	Pelle 1	Tadic*	Cork 1**	
Sat 30 West Ham .....	A	W 3-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Yoshida	Bertrand	2 Schneiderlin	Tadic	W-Prowse	Pelle 1	Ramirez*	Cork**	Ramirez***
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>														
Sat 13 Newcastle .....	H	W 4-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Cork 1***	S Davis	Tadic**	Pelle 2	Wanyama*	W-Prowse**	Gardos***
Sat 20 Swansea .....	A	W 1-0	Forster	Clyne 1	Fonte	Yoshida*	Bertrand	Cork**	W-Prowse***	Tadic	Pelle	Gardos*	S Davis**	Wanyama 1***
Tues 23 Arsenal (LC3) .....	A	W 2-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Gardos	Targett**	S Schneiderlin	S Davis	Tadic 1	Pelle	Long*	Bertrand**	
Sat 27 QPR .....	H	W 2-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	2 Schneiderlin	Tadic***	Mane*	Pelle 1	Long*	Cork**	Targett***
<b>OCTOBER</b>														
Sun 5 Tottenham .....	A	L 0-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Wanyama*	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Long*	Wanyama 1*	
Sat 18 Sunderland .....	H	W 8-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Cork 1	S Schneiderlin	Tadic 1	Pelle 2**	Wanyama*	Mane**	Mayuka***
Sat 25 Stoke .....	H	W 1-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Cork*	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Gardos*	Cork**	
Weds 29 Stoke (LC4) .....	A	W 3-2	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Gardos**	Targett	Wanyama**	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle 2	Mane*	Alderweireld**	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>														
Sat 1 Hull .....	A	W 1-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Wanyama 1	S Schneiderlin	Tadic**	Pelle	Long*	Cork**	
Sat 8 Leicester .....	H	W 2-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	S Schneiderlin	S Schneiderlin	Tadic 1	Pelle	Wanyama 1*	Long**	Reed***
Mon 24 Aston Villa .....	A	D 1-1	Forster	Clyne 1	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Wanyama	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Mane*	Cork**	
Sun 30 Man City .....	H	L 0-3	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	S Schneiderlin	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Gardos*	Mayuka**	Mayuka***
<b>DECEMBER</b>														
Weds 3 Arsenal .....	A	L 0-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Wanyama	Cork*	Tadic**	Pelle	Mane*	Cork**	
Mon 8 Man United .....	H	L 1-2	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Yoshida	Bertrand	S Schneiderlin	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle 1	Long*	Mayuka**	Mayuka***
Sat 13 Burnley .....	A	L 0-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Wanyama	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Mane**	Cork**	
Tues 16 Sheff Utd (LC5) .....	A	L 0-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Gardos	Targett*	Wanyama**	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Mane**	Mayuka**	Alderweireld***
Sat 20 Everton .....	H	W 3-0	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Alderweireld	Bertrand	Yoshida 1	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle 1	Mane**	Gape**	
Fri 26 Crystal Palace .....	A	W 3-1	Forster	Clyne	Fonte	Gardos	Alderweireld 1	Yoshida	S Schneiderlin	Tadic	Pelle	Mayuka**	Long	McCarthy
Sat 28 Chelsea .....	H													
<b>JANUARY</b>														
Thurs 1 Arsenal .....	H													
Sun 4 Ipswich (FAC 3) .....	H													
Sun 11 Man United .....	A													
Sat 17 Newcastle .....	A													
<b>FEBRUARY</b>														
Sun 1 Swans .....	H													
Sat 7 QPR .....	A													
Weds 11 West Ham .....	H													
Sun 22 Liverpool .....	H													
Sat 28 West Brom .....	A													
<b>MARCH</b>														
Tue 3 Crystal Palace .....	H													
Sat 14 Chelsea .....	A													
Sat 21 Burnley .....	H													
<b>APRIL</b>														
Sat 4 Everton .....	A													
Sat 11 Hull .....	H													
Sat 18 Stoke .....	A													
Sat 25 Tottenham .....	H													
<b>MAY</b>														
Sat 2 Sunderland .....	A													
Sat 9 Leicester .....	A													
Sat 16 Aston Villa .....	H													
Sun 24 Man City .....	A													

## Toby ready to tackle Costa threat

SOUTHAMPTON'S Toby Alderweireld began 2014 playing alongside Diego Costa and ends it trying to shackle a player he believes is one of the best in the world.

This has been quite the year for the 25-year-old, having made the loan move to Saints from helping Belgium to the World Cup quarter-finals and Atletico Madrid shock the football world.

Alderweireld was part of the Los Colchoneros side which won a first Primera Division title in 18 years and came off the bench in the Champions League final, where rivals Real Madrid cruelly denied them a famous double.

It took extra time for Real to eventually triumph, and things could have been so different had star man Costa not been forced off just nine minutes into what proved his last match for Atletico.

The bustling forward moved to Chelsea in the summer and has so far justified his £32 million price tag, with the Boxing Day strike against West Ham making it 13 goals from his first 15 Premier League matches.

Alderweireld faces the unenviable task of attempting to stop Costa adding to that tally on Sunday, with the defender well aware of the threat his former team-mate poses.

"It is very difficult because he is fast, he is strong, he has technique," he said.

"He can score goals, is good with his head, so I have to be at my best to stop him."

Costa is not the only threat Alderweireld knows all too well about, having this year also played alongside Eden Hazard, Thibaut Courtois and Filipe Luis.

"They are the best players in the world, especially Diego and Eden Hazard," he said. "We have to be at our top to beat them."

Despite that, he says Southampton will head into the match brimming with confidence after continuing their impressive resurgence at Selhurst Park.

Fresh from ending their worst losing streak of the 21st century against Everton, Ronald Koeman's men triumphed 3-1 against Crystal Palace thanks to goals from Sadio Mane, Ryan Bertrand and Alderweireld.

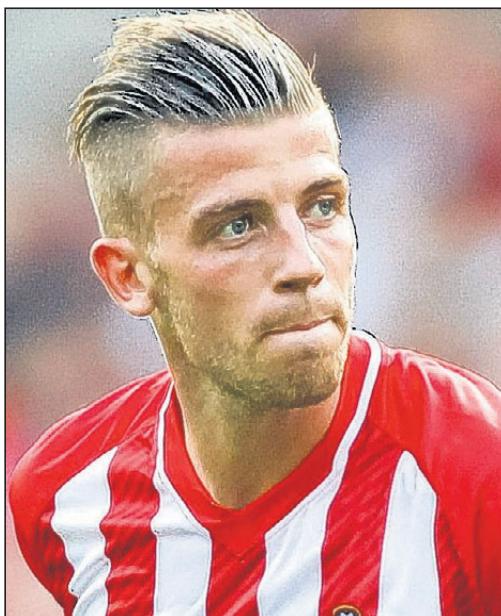
"It's the best feeling, even for a defender," the latter said after his first Premier League goal. "I am very, very pleased that I could help the team and after we made it 3-0 it was over, I think."

"It is always difficult to win here and play here, especially over the Christmas period."

"They need the points and we knew that before, but I think we played very good, defensively it was fantastic and in important moments we killed the game."

"It is very important after a couple of difficult weeks to win again."

"They were two difficult games, Everton and now here at Crystal Palace, but we got six out of six points, made six goals and conceded one. We are getting our confidence back."



TOBY ALDERWEIRELD

	LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG		LA	LG	CA	CG	CSA	CSG							
ARTUR BORUC	0	0	0	0	50	0	NATHANIEL CLYNE	18	2	4	1	80(5)	5	SAM GALLAGHER	0	0	0	0	3(17)	2
CODY CROPPER	0	0	0	0	0	0	JACK CORK	5(6)	2	0(2)	1	127(23)	3	SHANE LONG	9(8)	2	3(1)	0	12(9)	2
KELVIN DAVIS	0	0	0	0	292(1)	0	HARRISON REED	1(1)	0	0	0	2(8)	0	EMMANUEL MAYUKA	0(5)	0	0(1)	0	3(16)	1
FRASER FORSTER	18	0	4	0	22	0	MORGAN SCHNEIDERLIN	14	3	3	0	0217(31)	13	GRAZIANO PELLE	18	8	3	3	21	11
PAULO GAZZANIGA	0	0	0	0	18(1)	0	VICTOR WANYAMA	11(5)	3	4	0	35(9)	3	JAY RODRIGUEZ	0	0	0	0	59(17)	26
RYAN BERTRAND	18	1	1(1)	0	19(1)	2	STEVEN DAVIS	16(1)	0	3	0	76(18)	6	JAKE HESKETH	1(1)	0	0	0	1(1)	0
MATT TARGETT	0(2)	0	4	0	4(2)	0	LLOYD ISGROVE	0(1)	0	1(1)	0	2(3)	0	DOMINIC GAPE	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0
JOSE FONTE	17	0	4	0	198(5)	13	SAM MCQUEEN	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0	JASON MCCARTHY	0(1)	0	0	0	0(1)	0
FLORIN GARDOS	1(3)	0	3	0	4(3)	0	GASTON RAMIREZ	0(1)	0	0(1)	0	27(23)	8							
TOBY ALDERWEIRELD	13	0	0(2)	0	13(2)	1	DUSAN TADIC	16	1	2(1)	1	18(1)	2							
MAYA YOSHIDA	7(2)	1	1	0	54(3)	3	SADIO MANE	9(3)	1	2	0	11(3)	2							
JACK STEPHENS	0	0	0	0	0(1)	0	JAMES WARD-PROWSE	6(2)	0	2	0	38(32)	1							

KEY: LA: league appearances. LG: league goals. CA: cup appearances. CG: cup goals. CSA: career Saints appearances. CSG: career Saints goals.

# Non-league Action



**GOAL:** Winchester's Chris Mason, centre, heads home against Alresford Town. Picture: Chris Moorhouse. ID No 25116717

## Trio return for win

A TRIO of former Alresford Town players returned to their old Arlebury Park haunts to score and guide Winchester City to a 4-2 win over the Magpies in today's Sydenhams Wessex League lunchtime derby, writes **MIKE VIMPANY**.

Zac Glasspool, Stuart Green and Warren Bentley all hit the target as fourth-placed Winchester twice came from behind to run out comfortable winners against a tiring Alresford side.

Alresford sparked a lively first half by taking a second-minute lead – Dan Fox powering home a header off the upright from a left-wing Tom Donaldson cross.

Winchester equalised midway through the opening period when Glasspool broke the Alresford off-side trap to level with a well-taken goal.

Five minutes before the break Alresford were back in front. Sam Carter flighted an inch perfect free kick into the City area and Andy

Turner ran in to power a header into the roof of the net.

Alresford's lead lasted only a few minutes.

Soon after Glasspool wasted a good chance, City restored parity – a goalmouth scramble from a scuffed free kick culminated in Bentley hitting the upright and Stuart Green tapping in the rebound.

Winchester took the lead for the first time early in the second half – Taz Roberts the architect as City top scorer Bentley made it 3-2 to the visitors.

For an hour it remained an evenly contested affair, but as the game wore on Alresford visibly tired.

The Magpies had strong appeals for a penalty turned down when a powerful Dave Stanbrook shot appeared to strike a Winchester arm.

Winchester wrapped it up when substitute Chris Mason came off the bench to score with a 70th minute header from Bentley's left-side cross.

Craig Feeney made no mistake from the spot, sending Lee Webber the wrong way for his 15th goal of the season.

**Simon Walter**

simon.walter@dailyecho.co.uk

**Sholing 2 AFC Totton 1**

**SUPER-sub Jess Walklin scored with his first touch as Sholing beat an AFC Totton side including the re-signed Mike Gosney.**

Gosney, back with Totton after a spell with Gosport Borough, played most of the match on the left flank.

But it was a winger at the beginning of his career who scored the crucial first goal.

Within a minute of replacing Tobi Adekunle, who had only been on for 20 minutes in place of the injured Nick Watts, Walklin fired in the crisply-struck opener on hour.

Walklin's first touch found the bottom of the far corner after Dan Mason had crossed from the right.

And in the 75th minute Barry Mason secured all three points when he powered in a near-post header from Kevin Brewster's corner.

Totton were given an 87th-minute lifeline when defender Stuart Mott – in his first game back at Sholing since leaving earlier this season – was brought down in the penalty area.

Craig Feeney made no mistake from the spot, sending Lee Webber the wrong way for his 15th goal of the season.

Cue a tense finale.

Totton left-back Andrew Bridge twice went close from distance and with the final kick of the match substitute Ellis White fired over a glorious chance to equalise following Kyle O'Brien's free-kick.

Nathaniel Sherborne twice went close at the beginning of the first half, firing over the bar and then hitting it, while strike partner Feeney sent a cushioned volley just



# Boatmen triumph in tense derby clash



**GOAL PROVIDER:** Sholing's Dan Mason, right, in action against Totton.

Picture: Chris Moorhouse. ID No 25117434

beyond the far post.

But Sholing deserved the three points.

Dan Mason had a volley well saved by Steve Mowthorpe and had another chance to open the scoring after brother Byron had seized on a slip by former teammate Mott.

Byron Mason missed a golden

chance of his own just before half-time, a one-on-one with Mowthorpe who saved well before Adekunle's follow-up shot was blocked.

Despite the missed opportunities, Sholing returned to winning ways thanks to two goals in the last half-hour in front of a season's best Silverlake Arena crowd of 309.

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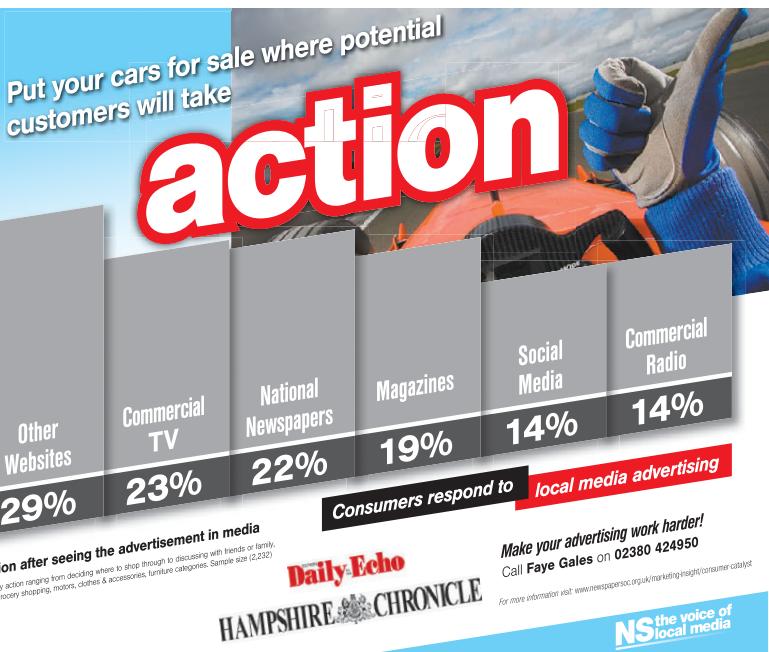
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- Comfortable coach travel & transfers
- Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager



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**£629.00**

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Flying direct from London Gatwick  
 Departs March, April, May, June, July, August, September & October 2015

Discover and explore a trio of Europe's finest cities and their delightful surrounding countryside, with included guided tours in each. A visit to Slovakian capital Bratislava completes this fully escorted tour.

#### Price includes

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- Fascinating guided tours in Prague, Budapest and Vienna
- Visit to Bratislava
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5 days from  
**£529.00**

### Highland Railways

Flying direct from Southampton  
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#### Tour Highlights & Inclusions

- Rail travel from Inverness to Kyle - one of the 'Great Railway Journeys of the World'
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- Visit the famous Highland resort of Aviemore
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- Comfortable coach travel and transfers in Scotland
- Fully escorted by a friendly, experienced tour manager



8 days from  
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Puglia, Matera & Alberobello's Trulli  
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#### Price includes

- Return flights to Naples from Bournemouth
- Guided, escorted visits to Matera, Ostuni, Alberobello, Lecce & the Gargano peninsula
- Seven nights' half board accommodation in the four-star Grand Hotel Vanvitelli, (1 night), the four-star Grand Hotel Masseria Santa Lucia, (four nts), and the four-star Hotel Delle More (two nts)
- Coach travel and transfers
- Tour Manager services



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SOLAR ECLIPSE  
20 MARCH 2015

15nts Full Board - 09 March 2015  
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Onboard Boudicca

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OUTSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£2267</b>
BALCONY PER PERSON FROM	<b>£3239</b>

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11nts Full Board - 24 March 2015  
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Onboard Braemar

Sail from Dover to La Pallice > Bordeaux > Nantes > Rouen > Dover

+ DRINKS PACKAGE FROM ONLY £10PPPN

INSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£899</b>
OUTSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£1034</b>
SUPERIOR OUTSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£1304</b>

#### UK ISLANDS

10nts Full Board - 23 June 2015  
Sailing from Southampton  
Onboard Balmoral

Sail from Southampton to Falmouth > Belfast > Stornoway > Kirkwall > Lerwick > Invergordon > Newcastle > Southampton

+ DRINKS PACKAGE FROM ONLY £10PPPN

INSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£989</b>
OUTSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£1214</b>
SUPERIOR OUTSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£1799</b>

#### CANARY ISLANDS

13nts Full Board - 08 November 2015  
Sailing from Southampton  
Onboard Balmoral

Sail from Southampton to Funchal > La Palma > Tenerife > Gran Canaria > Lanzarote > Lisbon > Southampton

+ DRINKS PACKAGE FROM ONLY £10PPPN

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OUTSIDE PER PERSON FROM	<b>£1169</b>
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**Monday's**

**Bassett - PM**

St Michaels & All Angels Church, Bassett Ave, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Claire 07786 014101

**NEW 5.30 SESSION FROM  
5TH JANUARY**

**Coxford - PM**

Shirley Warren Action Church, 107-117 Warren Crescent, 5.30 & 7.30pm.  
Julie 07949 256891

**Regents Park - PM**

Regents Park Community College, King Edwards Avenue, 5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Tricia Norris 07767 373471

**Romsey - PM**

The Abbey Hall, The Abbey, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Lynn 07971 354179

**NEW GROUP FROM  
5th JANUARY**

**Sholing - AM**

St Andrews Methodist Church, South East Road, 9.30am  
Hayley 07772 351717

**Sholing - PM**

St Andrews Methodist Church, South East Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Hayley 07772 351717

**Woolston - PM**

St Patricks Parish Centre, Porchester Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Vanessa 07746 533898

**Tuesday's**

**Bitterne - AM**

Catholic Church Hall, Commercial Street, 9.30 & 11.30am  
Jo 07733 235039

**Bitterne - PM**

Catholic Church Hall, Commercial Street, 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Jo 07733 235039

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**Botley - AM**

Botley Centre, High Street, 9.15 & 11.15am  
Claire 02380 407551

**Bursledon - PM**

Pilands Wood Community Centre, Chamberlayne Road, 7.30pm  
Vanessa 07746 533898

**Fremantle - PM**

Seventh Day Adventist Church, Shirley Road, 5.30pm  
Tiffany 07738 162450

**NEW 3.30pm SESSION &  
NEW TIMES FROM  
13th JANUARY**

**Hedge End - PM**

St Johns Church, Underhill Centre, St Johns Road, 3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Claire 02380 407551

**Lordswood - PM**

Lordswood Community Centre, Sandpiper Road, 6.30pm  
Angie 02380 777063

**NEW 5.30 SESSION FROM  
6th JANUARY**

**Millbrook - PM**

Holy Family Church, Redbridge Hill, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Krystal 07576 052709

**Netley Abbey - PM**

Abbey Hall, Victoria Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Claire 07917 851640

**NEW 1.30pm SESSION  
FROM 6th JANUARY**

**Shirley - AM & PM**

Salvation Army Hall, Victor Street, 9.30, 11.30am & 1.30pm  
Jo 07787 588434

**Swaythling - PM**

Swaythling Methodist Church, 286 Building, Burgess Rd, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Claire 07786 014101

**Thornhill - PM**

The Hinkler Community Centre, 328 Hinkler Road, 7.30pm.  
Karen 07826 850480

**West End - PM**

Isaac Watts Memorial Church, Winchester Rd, 9.30am or 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Paul 07891 085069

**Up to and including  
30th Dec**

**Woodley - PM**

Woodley Village Hall, School Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Charlotte 07810 643419

**Wednesday's**

**Bitterne Park - PM**

Ascension Centre, 1 Thorold Road, 7.30pm  
Laura 07825 210006

**NEW CONSULTANT FROM  
7th JANUARY**

**Hamble - PM**

Hamble Sport's Complex, Sports Pavilion, Satchell Lane, 5.30 & 7.30pm.  
Ann 07771 936774

**Lordshill - PM**

Lordshill Church, Lordshill District Centre, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Lynn 07971 354179

**Millbrook - PM**

All Saints Church, Kendal Avenue, 7pm. Liz 07955 898323

**Peartree Green - AM**

Peartree Church Hall, Peartree Road, 9.30 & 11.30am  
Claire 07917 851640

**NEW CONSULTANT FROM  
1st JANUARY**

**\*Change of Day for 1 week\***

**7th JANUARY ONWARDS**

**AS NORMAL**

**Sholing - PM**

St Monica Primary School, Juniors Site  
St Monica Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Maria 07500 714708

**Thornhill Park - PM**

Thornhill Baptist Church, Thornhill Park Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Karen 07826 850480

**Upper Shirley - AM & PM**

Isaac Watts Memorial Church, Winchester Rd, 9.30am or 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Paul 07891 085069

**New date - From  
Wednesday 7th Jan  
Woodley - PM**

Woodley Village Hall, School Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Charlotte 07810 643419

**Thursday's**

**Chartwell - PM**

Townhill Park Community Centre, Meggeson Avenue, 5.30pm & 7.30pm  
Kay 07833 746532

**Hedge End - AM & PM**

KCC (Kings Community Church), Sovereign Place, Upper Northam Rd, 9.30 & 11.30am  
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Claire 02380 407551

**Highfield - PM**

Highfield House Hotel, Highfield Lane, 6 & 7.45pm  
Viv 07899 736132

**North Badlesley - PM**

The Village Hall, Botley Road, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Charlotte 07810 643419

**Upper Shirley - PM**

Atherley Bowling Club, Hill Lane, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Tiffany 07738 162450

**Weston - AM & PM**

Chamberlayne Leisure Centre, Weston Lane, 9.30 & 11.30am  
3.30, 5.30 & 7.30pm  
Hayley 07545 772258

**Friday's**

**NEW GROUP FROM  
2nd JANUARY**

**Woolston - AM**

St Patricks Parish Centre, Porchester Road, 9.30am  
Vanessa 07746 533898

**Saturday's**

**St Denys - AM**

St Denys Community Centre, Priory Road, 9am  
Viv 07899 736132

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